FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

Daily Report

Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-94-154
Wednesday
10 August 1994

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Daily Report
Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-94-154 *10 August 1994*

CONTENTS

INTERREGIONAL AFFAIRS

Russian-Mediated Talks With Armenia Continue *[TURAN]* 1
Talks May Lead to Trilateral Summit *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 9 Aug]* 1
Karimov Argues for 'Transcontinental' Corporations *[Moscow TV]* 1
ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 10 Aug 1

RUSSIA INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Moscow Urges Bosnian Serbs To Accept Peace Plan *[INTERFAX]* 3
Bosnian Official Says Plan Unfair *[INTERFAX]* 3
Karasin on NATO Bombing of Serb Facilities *[ITAR-TASS]* 3
Cossacks Offer Troops To Help Bosnian Serbs *[Radio Rossii]* 4
Anpilov Plans Protest Action Against Totsk Exercises *[KOMMERSANT-DAILY 10 Aug]* 4
Timetable for Troop Withdrawn From Moldova Reported *[INTERFAX]* 4
Officers Protest Reorganization in Lebed's Absence *[IZVESTIYA 10 Aug]* 5
Paper Hits Latvian Response to Yeltsin Statement *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 9 Aug]* 5
Foreign Ministry Dismisses Swedish Spy Affair *[INTERFAX]* 5
Afghanistan Seeks Resolution of Tajik Conflict *[ITAR-TASS]* 5
Afghan Ambassador Discusses Return of POWs *[ITAR-TASS]* 6
First Round of Russian-Iraqi Talks Held in Moscow *[INA]* 6
Kolokolov Amplifies Russia's Stance on Iraq *[IZVESTIYA 9 Aug]* 6
Moscow Weighs Sending Military Observers to Haiti *[ITAR-TASS]* 7
Karasin Rejects Reports of Involvement in Yemen *[ITAR-TASS]* 7
Humanitarian Aid to Rwandan War Victims Continues *[ITAR-TASS]* 8
Moscow Concerned With 'Impasse' at Angolan Talks *[ITAR-TASS]* 8
ROK May Receive S-300 Anti-Aircraft Complexes *[ITAR-TASS]* 9
U.S. Seen Exploiting DPRK Contacts *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 9 Aug]* 9
'Hope' Expressed for Solution at U.S.-DPRK Talks *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 10 Aug]* 10
Specialists Discuss Construction of DPRK Reactor *[ITAR-TASS]* 10
Japan May Help Finance Reactor *[ITAR-TASS]* 11
Moscow Not To Supply Su-35 Fighters to China *[ITAR-TASS]* 11
Foreign Ministry Postpones Dalai Lama's Visit *[ITAR-TASS]* 11

RUSSIA NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political Issues

Chernomyrdin Criticizes Performance of Ministries *[INTERFAX]* 13
Murder Seen as Mafia Move To Control Oil Industry *[INTERFAX]* 13
Prosecutor Asks for Acquittal of Varennikov *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 10 Aug]* 13
Kalinin Joins Nuclear Power Plants' Protest *[INTERFAX]* 13
Troubled Paper Appeals for Readers' Loyalty *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 10 Aug]* 14

Economic Issues

Officials Discuss 'Extremely Grave' Energy Situation *[INTERFAX]* 15
Fuel Industry Seeks Guarantees With Ukraine *[INTERFAX]* 15
Implementation of Economic Edict Discussed *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 9 Aug]* 15

Regional Affairs

Chechen Opposition Appoints Prime Minister *[INTERFAX]* 17
Other Ministers Named *[ITAR-TASS]* 17

Interim Council Says Groznyy in 'State of Siege' *[ITAR-TASS]* 17
Council Appeals to Caucasus Peoples *[Moscow TV]* 18
Appeals to Russian Public *[ITAR-TASS]* 18
Moscow Chechens Call For Dudayev Resignation *[ITAR-TASS]* 18
Chechen Vice President Warns of Military Threat *[INTERFAX]* 18
Russian Military Denies Reports of Imminent Attack *[INTERFAX]* 19
Khasbulatov Receives 'Hero's Welcome' in Groznyy *[ITAR-TASS]* 19
Dudayev Charges Khasbulatov Preparing To Take Power *[ITAR-TASS]* 19
Khasbulatov Claims Dudayev Regime 'Doomed' *[IZVESTIYA 10 Aug]* 19
Khasbulatov To Form Chechen Opposition Commission *[INTERFAX]* 20
Chechnya To Introduce Passports, Currency 1 Sep *[INTERFAX]* 20
Chechen Congress To Express Support for Government *[ITAR-TASS]* 20
Mamodayev Not To Attend *[ITAR-TASS]* 21
Chechn Congress Opens in Groznyy *[ITAR-TASS]* 21
Dudayev To Follow Up With Statement *[Russian TV]* 21
Nine Chechen Regions Urge Immediate Martial Law *[ITAR-TASS]* 22
Opposition Fears Cossack-Chechen Clashes *[ITAR-TASS]* 22
Cossacks Deny Planning 'Invasion' *[ITAR-TASS]* 22
Dudayev Representatives Deny Power Struggle *[ITAR-TASS]* 22
Chechnya Officials Deny Polyarchy *[ITAR-TASS]* 23
Filatov Blamed for Anti-Chechen 'Sabotage' *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 10 Aug]* 23
Rutskoy Seen Organizing Opposition in Penza *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 9 Aug]* 24

UKRAINE

International Affairs

Kuchma's Foreign Policy Explained to UN *[Kiev International]* 25
Foreign Policy Guidelines 'Could Be Updated' *[INTERFAX]* 25
Zlenko Notes Position on Bosnia *[INTERFAX]* 25
Zlenko on 'Special' Relationship With Russia *[INTERFAX]* 25
Russian Nuclear Fuel Supplies Lagging *[ITAR-TASS]* 25
Navy Urges Cooperation With Russian Counterparts *[INTERFAX]* 26

National Affairs

Kuchma's Decrees Restore 'Chain of Executive Command' *[INTERFAX]* 26
Decrees Designed To Balance Power *[INTERFAX]* 26
Parliament Not To Challenge Decrees *[INTERFAX]* 26
Officials Comment on Kuchma Decrees *[INTERFAX]* 26
Mayors' Association Leader Backs President *[UNIAN]* 27
Kuchma Aide Quits Over 'Nomenkatura' Influence *[SEGODNYA 10 Aug]* 28
Anticrime Edicts, Radchenko Nomination Criticized *[VECHIRNIY KYYIV 3 Aug]* 29
Kuchma's Chances To Receive G-7 Aid Viewed *[POST-POSTUP 27 Jul]* 29
Moroz Assesses Parliament's First Session *[KYYIVSKA PRAVDA 5 Aug]* 30
Prospects for 'Reforms' Factions New Party *[KIYEVSKIYE VEDOMOSTI 4 Aug]* 31
'Reforms' Faction Criticizes Supreme Council *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 5 Aug]* 31
Leaders Warn of Difficulties in Fall, Winter *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 9 Aug]* 33
Nuclear Power Stations Not Ready for Winter *[UNIAN]* 33
Nuclear Power Expansion Program Planned *[Kiev International]* 34
Government Plans To Make Own Nuclear Fuel *[ITAR-TASS]* 34
Kiev's To Remain 'Patient' Towards Crimea *[INTERFAX]* 34
Crimean Parliament Hits Law Enforcement Failures *[KOMMERSANT-DAILY 9 Aug]* 35
Crimean Economic Data Reported *[UNIAR]* 35

WESTERN REGION

Belarus

President Pins Hopes for Security on Russia *[ITAR-TASS]* 36
Lukashenka Decrees Takeover of Government Property *[INTERFAX]* 36

Further Government Appointments Announced *[Minsk Radio]* 36
Prime Minister Outlines Primary Goals *[RESPUBLIKA 2 Aug]* 36
Chyhir Says Nation Not Ready for Monetary Union *[INTERFAX]* 39
ROE Drops After Introduction of Cash Controls *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 9 Aug]* 40
Bread, Milk Subsidies To Be Abolished *[ITAR-TASS]* 40

Moldova

Chisinau Hits Romania's Statement on Constitution *[INTERFAX]* 40
Russian-Moldovan Troop Withdrawal Talks Held *[INTERFAX]* 40
Dniester Delegation Walks Out *[ITAR-TASS]* 41
Delegation Leaders Explain Stands *[ITAR-TASS]* 41
Dniester Issues Statement on 14th Army's Status *[BASAPRESS]* 42
Military Council Denies Dissolution of 14th Army *[BASAPRESS]* 42
Reactions To Lebed's Dismissal Reported *[BASAPRESS]* 42
Transition of 14th Army to 'Border Guards' Viewed *[BASAPRESS]* 42
Russian Officer's Body Found in Dniester River *[ITAR-TASS]* 43
Mafia Attempting To Buy 14th Army's Weapons *[BASAPRESS]* 43
Special State Protection Service Set Up *[BASAPRESS]* 43
Gagauz Republic To Mark Fourth Anniversary *[BASAPRESS]* 43
Chisinau Ready To Discuss Gagauz Claims *[BASAPRESS]* 43

CENTRAL ASIA

Kazakhstan

Prime Minister Receives Turkish Defense Minister *[ITAR-TASS]* 45
Golhan Pledges Support for Kazakhstan *[Ankara TV]* 45

Tajikistan

Labor Minister Discusses Refugees, Tajik Talks *[Dushanbe Radio]* 45
Democratic Nature of Elections Questioned *[PRAVDA 5 Aug]* 45

Uzbekistan

Iranian Foreign Minister Arrives in Tashkent *[Tehran Radio]* 46
Velayati, Saidkasymov Discuss Ties *[Tehran IRNA]* 47
Afghan Envoy Charges Uzbek Interference in Affairs *[ITAR-TASS]* 47
Namangan Oblast Discusses Economic Issues *[Tashkent Radio]* 47

CAUCASUS

Armenia

Paper Previews Ter-Petrosyan's Washington Visit *[IZVESTIYA 10 Aug]* 48
Front Line Situation in Nagorno-Karabakh Reported *[Yerevan International]* 48
Official Reports Azerbaijan Cease-Fire Violations
[ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN] 49
Border Guards Shot At From Nakhichevan Territory *[INTERFAX]* 49
Emigrants Blame 'Tyranny' for Decision To Leave *[PRAVDA 6 Aug]* 49
Ter-Petrosyan on Security Service Reorganization *[ITAR-TASS]* 50
'New' Liberal Democratic Party Founded *[SNARK]* 50

Azerbaijan

Helsinki Watch Appeals to Clinton on Nagorno-Karabakh *[Baku Radio]* 50
Baku Ready To Sign Political Treaty With Yerevan *[ITAR-TASS]* 51
Accord Pends Ceding of Territory *[INTERFAX]* 51
Turkey Reportedly Supplying Arms *[ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN]* 51
Turkish Energy Minister Continues Contacts *[Ankara TV]* 51

Turkey Asked To Supply Power to Nakhichevan *[Baku TV]* 52
Industrial Revival Linked to Karabakh Stabilization *[ITAR-TASS]* 52

Georgia

Abkhazia Denies Georgian Troop Withdrawal *[ITAR-TASS]* 52
'Important' Document Signed on Turkish Cooperation *[SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA 30 Jul]* 53
Parliament Agrees to Emergency Session *[INTERFAX]* 53
28 Percent of State Facilities Privatized *[GULANI 5-19 Aug]* 53
Adzharia Establishes Business Cooperation With Iran *[SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA 30 Jul]* 54
Flour, Wheat Supplies Exhausted in Zugdidi Region *[SNARK]* 54

BALTIC STATES

Estonia

Red Tape Prevents Tanks From Leaving Paldiski Base *[Tallinn Radio]* 55
Premier Cited on Russian Treaty Ratification Problem *[PRAVDA 9 Aug]* 55

Lithuania

Free Trade Treaty With Kazakhstan Planned *[BNS]* 56
Brazauskas, Nazarbayev Welcome Signing of Accords *[Vilnius International]* 56
Kazakh President Hopes To Foster Closer Ties *[INTERFAX]* 57
Brazauskas Hails Euro-Asian Union *[BNS]* 57
Slezevicius Receives Polish Defense Minister *[Vilnius Radio]* 58
Polish Minister Discusses Cooperation *[Vilnius International]* 58
Opposes Russian Military Transit *[BNS]* 58

Russian-Mediated Talks With Armenia Continue

NC0808185594 Baku TURAN in English 1655 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] Moscow, 8 Aug (TURAN)—On Sunday [7 August] the talks between the Deputy Foreign Ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan and through the mediation of special representative of Russian President, Vladimir Kazimirov, continued in Moscow. Military experts from both countries took part in the talks as well, the sources from Russia's Foreign Ministry told TURAN's Moscow correspondent.

The source from Russia's Foreign Ministry reports that the issues concerning deployment of monitors and peacemaking forces in the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict zone were the subject to discussion during the talks. The mechanism of liberation of occupied territories, return of refugees to their native lands, fate of Shusha and Lachin as well as Nagorno-Karabakh's status were also under discussion during the talks.

Talks May Lead to Trilateral Summit

MK0908094594 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Aug 94 p 3

[Report by Aydyn Mekhtiyev under the "NEGA Reports" rubric: "Azerbaijan"]

[Text] Your NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA correspondent has learned from an independent source in the Embassy of the Azerbaijani Republic in Moscow that consultations between delegations from Azerbaijan's and Armenia's foreign policy departments are taking place in the "Meshcherino" holiday home near Moscow. Vladimir Kazimirov, the Russian president's special envoy, is acting as mediator in the talks. The Russian leadership sees this stage of consultation as offering hope for the speedy preparation of a comprehensive agreement on a political settlement of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. Should each side in the conflict agree, in the course of the current talks, to a sensible compromise, this would create real prerequisites for preparing a trilateral summit, the idea of which has been discussed on and off in diplomatic circles for long months. I am talking about a meeting between Presidents G. Aliyev and L. Ter-Petrosyan of Azerbaijan and Armenia, with mediation by Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Russia's Western partners are attentively following Russia's mediation efforts in arranging a settlement of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. Last week, Washington officials voiced approval of the cease-fire signed 27 July with Russia's mediation by the heads of the military departments of Azerbaijan, Armenia, and Nagorno-Karabakh. The U.S. Embassy in Baku distributed the text of a statement by U.S. State Department spokesman David Johnson calling for continued dialogue between the conflicting sides with mediation by the Minsk CSCE group and the Russian Federation.

Karimov Argues for 'Transcontinental' Corporations

LD0908182494

[Editorial Report] Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian at 1200 GMT on 9 August carries a report by Mukhtar Ganiyev from Bishkek on the outcome of the meeting of heads of government from Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan. He describes it as a continuation of efforts by Central Asian leaders to establish an open economic space in the region. He recalls that all customs and border barriers between these states came down in April and summarizes other steps towards economic integration which have already been taken. He views the arguments in favor of open integration within the CIS framework and notes other regional factors, including the instability in Tajikistan. In a brief interview Islam Karimov, the president of Uzbekistan, says:

"We must view this economic integration as leading, in due course, to political integration. The basis for this is the economy. Let's unite in this way first, seeking to work in a manner which is mutually advantageous for each of us. In other words, let's have single transcontinental or interstate corporations and economic associations. They will not get involved with politics. First and foremost, they will create the foundations."

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 10 Aug

LD1008062594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0613 GMT 10 Aug 94

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow August 10 (ITAR-TASS)—Newspapers give much attention to developments in Chechnya where, as the ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA newspaper claims, power is contested by several groups. Pointing to the complicated and uncertain political situation in the republic, the newspaper stresses that "a referendum and a national congress of clans could show the will of the people in the best way".

The IZVESTIYA newspaper reports that former speaker of the Russian parliament Ruslan Khasbulatov has arrived in Chechnya on a peaceful mission. He said in an interview with the newspaper that he "intends to promote a peaceful settlement of relations between the Chechen government and the opposition".

"To settle the crisis of power in Chechnya, there is no need for dispatching Russian troops here," he noted. "I suggest that the opposition and President Dudayev, firstly, should not use weapons, secondly, sit at the negotiating table. Thirdly, it is necessary to gain Dudayev's voluntary resignation, guaranteeing him safety in future."

In Khasbulatov's opinion, 99 per cent of the republic's population does not support the president. Therefore, Dudayev's regime is doomed.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

The same newspaper writes that "Russia can again become the centre of an international scandal if it starts whaling again". The thing is that forces advocating the resumption of whaling stepped up their activities in Russia, the newspaper continues.

The Ministry of Fisheries sent a proposal to the government, saying that "our country should stop supporting a decision by the International Whaling Commission" to create a preserve zone for whales in the Antarctic Ocean.

Writing in IZVESTIYA, oceanologist Ernst Cherny discloses "the stenching plot of this whaling intrigue".

Viktor Krivov and Ivan Kharlanov, representatives of the analytical centre of the Russian parliament upper chamber's office, contribute an article to the NOVAYA GAZETA newspaper, where they express their ideas about a concept for Russia's social and economic development in the next two or three years.

The need for such a concept is increasingly discussed in Russia. The analysts claim that "Russia needs, after all, a generally recognised programme of reforms". They express their opinion "both on the main provisions of a future concept and on approaches to its drafting".

"It is necessary, above all, to formulate aims for economic development, understandable and acceptable to most people," they write. "These aims should be of constructive and consolidating nature. Higher, and what's the main thing, qualitatively higher living standards can become such a universal aim."

The KRASNAYA ZVEZDA newspaper again raises the issue of "the Army's aid to peasants in harvesting the new crop". The organ of the Russian Defence Ministry writes that the Army will help them this year too.

However, the newspaper continues, this aid will be rendered on another basis which will help to avoid a ballyhoo and to make this aid more effective.

In another article, the newspaper tries to reply to the following question: "Who needs military reform in Russia?". KRASNAYA ZVEZDA examines the history of military reforms in the country.

"The present military reform is not limited to local tasks, as many previous ones," it notes. "The reform should result in creating qualitatively new armed forces which would meet the interests of Russia's military security both in the present-day military-political, strategic and other realities as well as in future."

Under the headline "Russia Should Not Be Looked Upon as a Conquered Power", the PRAVDA newspaper runs an interview with Gennadiy Zyuganov, leader of the Communist Party group at the Russian parliament's lower house.

"The chief Russian communist" expresses his ideas about the present and the future of the Russian state as well as describes his party's strategic plans and activities.

"We want to reorient the party's philosophy and ideology (preserving its basic values—justice and human wealth) on stable development, adding the idea of Russian statehood and patriotism which, as I think, are immortal."

Mikhail Shmakov, chairman of the Russian Federation of Independent Trade Unions, describes unions' attitude to the bankruptcy law in the TRUD newspaper.

He writes that "the procedure of bankruptcy is much more humane towards workers than a kreeping covert liquidation of a firm when it is about to grind to a standstill and when people are sent on forced leaves or they leave a firm themselves in dispair.

"They are virtually defenceless in this case. The bankruptcy law ensures greater guarantees to people. The main thing is that the law should work, and nobody should trample it underfoot."

The NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA newspaper says that "Grigoriy Yavlinskiy is ready to work at the government even now." The newspaper drew this conclusion after examining pronouncements and actions by this prominent economist and politician.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA notes that the Russian president's aides revealed that such cooperation is quite probable, in principle. According to these aides, Yavlinskiy could be in charge of Russian policy on creating an economic union with former Soviet republics as well as in charge of Russian reforms in their regional aspect.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Moscow Urges Bosnian Serbs To Accept Peace Plan

LD0908201294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1837 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Bosnian Serbs must accept the plan drawn up by the Contact Group on settlement of the conflict "instead of making general statements and trying to figure out who was the first to shoot." "The general statements and reality do not always coincide," a high-ranking official in the Russian Foreign Ministry said in an interview with Interfax today.

He said he believes that the Moslems and Croatians, who provoked the recent incident in Sarajevo (as a result of which NATO air forces with UN go-ahead bombed Bosnian Serb positions), will continue to undertake similar actions in the future. "However, world opinion is not concerned about this but about the fact that Moslems and Croatians accepted the Contact Group peace plan while Bosnian Serbs have not," he added.

The diplomat stressed that nobody prohibits Bosnian Serbs from negotiating with the Moslem-Croatian Federation on exchange of territories.

The diplomat said that Bosnian Serbs had opted for the absolutely wrong tactic. "Talks are always 'tricks' and 'moves' which Bosnian Serbs do not intend to apply. By the way, if they had supported the plan of the Contact Group, who knows, probably Moslems and Croatians would have rejected it. Bosnian Serbs take the straight and narrow approach and therefore have only what they have," the diplomat said. (For details refer to the today's Interfax Diplomatic Panorama).

Bosnian Official Says Plan Unfair

LD0908210694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1837 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Bosnian Serbs are in favor of reaching a peace settlement in Bosnia-Herzegovina but not on the basis of the present plan proposed by the Contact Group, Counsellor of the Yugoslav Embassy to Russia Todor Dutina said in an interview with Interfax on Monday. Dutina represents the interests of the self-proclaimed Serb Republic.

"We are in favor of peace but it must be fair and stable. The peace which the Contact Group proposes to us cannot be stable since it is not fair," Dutina said.

Dutina said he believes the main failure of the plan on territorial division p oposed by the Contact Group concerns the quality of the territories offered to Bosnian Serbs rather than the amount of territory.

"We would in fact receive about 20 percent of the territory instead of 49 percent, taking into consideration the natural resources and the infrastructure of these territories," he said.

Dutina said he is ready to agree on 40 percent of the territory but only if it is "of acceptable quality." "Primarily, the Serb Republic must have access to the Adriatic Sea. Secondly, the division of Sarajevo must be fair. Finally, the Contact Group's plan must provide for guarantees for the right of Bosnian Serbs to self-determination."

"If these demands are satisfied we are ready to sign the international plan," Dutina said.

Karasin on NATO Bombing of Serb Facilities

LD0908185594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1829 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Pyotr Cheremushkin and Andrey Storkh]

[Text] Moscow August 9 TASS—The August 5 incident near Sarajevo provoked Russian alarm, such incidents can only hamper political efforts on peaceful settlement in former Yugoslavia, head of the Russian Foreign Ministry's information and press department Grigoriy Karasin told a briefing here today. The incident is the NATO air raid on Serb facilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina in response to actions of Bosnian Serbs.

Russia is still watching the developments around Bosnian settlement with attention and concern, said Karasin. "We hope that the Bosnian Serbs will prevent similar provocative actions in future and work to achieve peaceful settlement of the conflict in accordance with the proposals of the contact group. Restraint and responsible political decisions are needed as never before," said the official.

"Analyzing the evolution of stands on proposals of the contact group, we would like to note that Belgrade is acting in the right direction by consolidating its essential stand with specific deeds. The Serb leadership's support to the Geneva peace plan is a major positive factor, the choice is up to the Bosnian Serbs," said Karasin.

"No doubt, the situation is analyzed every day, unofficial estimations on resolutions of the Security Council are being done. Several days ago Deputy Russian Foreign Minister Vitaliy Churkin told ITAR-TASS that experts in New York City are working on two parallel drafts of the U.N. Security Council resolution. One of these drafts provides for further toughening of sanctions against Yugoslavia in case the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina deteriorates. The other aims at gradual weakening of pressure on Serbia and Montenegro as Belgrade has been showing constructive and flexible approach to Bosnian settlement," said Karasin.

In his words, new Russian initiatives will be put forward in the near future after Russia receives the Bosnian Serb response to the peace plan of the contact group.

Asked about his attitude to the Bosnian Serb plans on referendum on proposals of the contact group, Karasin

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

reminded that Russia has repeatedly voiced fears about the efficiency of this plebiscite. It will be complicated by the fact that many Bosnian Serbs have turned refugees, left their homes and armed clashes are underway in various Bosnian regions. "A referendum under these conditions is doubtful. Anyway, any leadership has the right to decide on referendum and this decision must be respected," said Karasin.

Cossacks Offer Troops To Help Bosnian Serbs

LD0908124194 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] The Russian Cossacks have offered military help to the Bosnian Serbs. This was reported today by the independent BETA agency in Belgrade. The agency managed to obtain a copy of a letter from Viktor Ratiyev, supreme ataman of the Cossack host, to Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader. The letter says 8,000 fighters can be mobilized and sent to the banks of the Drina within the next few days.

Anpilov Plans Protest Action Against Totsk Exercises

MK1008080094 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 10 Aug 94 p 3

[Report by Ilya Bulavinov and Maksim Sokolov: "Russian-American Exercises. 'Russian Redoubt' at Totsk Training Ground"]

[Text] The specific dates for the holding of the Russian-American exercises at the Totsk training ground will be agreed in the very near future. The scandal gotten up by the State Duma about the coming of American servicemen to Russia has ended in the Russian servicemen succeeding in convincing the lawmakers of the need to hold the peacekeeping exercises in Russia. All that remains to be done is to convince Victor Anpilov: Finding out that Russian and American generals "have found a big field in which to run free" [line from Lermontov's poem "Borodino"], the implacable Anpilovites reacted swiftly by "building a redoubt" [allusion to same poem].

According to KOMMERSANT-DAILY's information, the American side has proposed that the exercises at the Totsk training ground go ahead on 8 September. The Russians have proposed an earlier date—2 September—because 14 September marks 40 years of nuclear tests in Totsk. This, the Russian military think, may spark undesirable political speculations and even provocations on the part of the local pacifists.

The exercise organizers are trying to preempt all possible accusations aimed at them. One of the arguments of those opposing the exercise was the fear that the people's money would be thrown away to accommodate the Americans. Saying that the American peacekeepers will pay for their passage to Russia and for their own upkeep there, the Russian military added—in order to put the subject to rest—that not only the Americans, but even Russian military journalists will have to pay not only for their stay and board in Totsk, but also their traveling expenses there and back.

But it has proven impossible to fend off the most resounding charge. The Viktor Anpilov-led "Working Russia" movement has contrived to discern "a universal spontaneous protest against a creeping U.S. military incursion into Russia" and has started "to prepare an operation code-named the 'Russian Redoubt.'" The Anpilovites intend, if not to disrupt the exercises, then at least to "expose and put to shame in the eyes of world public opinion the vile provocation" consisting, in Anpilov's view, in "intimidating the peoples of Russia by the presence of foreign troops" at the anniversary of the fall 1993 events.

The events planned by Anpilov (like an "antiwar march of the 'Russian Redoubt'" scheduled for 19 August) are supposed to resemble antiwar actions in the West—Anpilov makes direct references to the experience of peace champions in the West and of the "Greenpeace" movement who have proved, in his view, that "a handful of resolute and ideologically united people may stop a tank armada or atomic aircraft-carriers." Thus a microcosm in the person of Anpilov emulates the evolution of the macrocosm, that is to say, the USSR: Having lost interest in the communist and workers movement in the early 1980's, the CPSU began to gamble on the extremist part of the "greens" and the antiwar movements in the West—Anpilov also clearly courts them. However, courting apart, the "operational groups" of the antiwar movement in the making are supposed to be led by "veterans of the Dniester" and officers discharged from the army. Anpilov, amnestied in February, must have decided that half a year of behaving calmly is more than enough, and it is time to create a new pacifist organization with Dniester veterans taking part.

Timetable for Troop Withdrawn From Moldova Reported

LD1008121594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1032 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] On the first day of the closed Russian-Moldovan negotiations, concluded in Kishinev [Chisinau] Wednesday, the parties reached a preliminary agreement on one of the major obstacles: the timetable for Russian troop withdrawal from Moldova.

A reliable source in Kishinev told Interfax that the parties agreed on a three year period for the pullout.

The negotiations are to be concluded August 10. A joint press conference will be given on the results of the negotiations.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Officers Protest Reorganization in Lebed's Absence

MM0908143794 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Aug 94 p 2

[Report by Svetlana Gamova under the general heading "14th Army Officers Disagree with Reorganization in Their Commander's Absence"]

[Text] Kishinev [Chisinau]—A meeting of administrative officers [ofitserskoye sobraniye upravleniya] from Russia's 14th Army has been held in Tiraspol in the absence of its commander, Lieutenant General Aleksandr Lebed, who is currently on leave.

The officers adopted a statement addressed to the Russian Defense Ministry. It notes the tense atmosphere in the region where the army, which is undergoing reorganization, is deployed. Despite the publicity given to the reasons behind the reorganization—the reduction in the Russian Armed Forces, the need to bring army administrative staffing structures in line with the size of the units and subunits deployed in the Dniester Region—the statement says that "you inevitably come to the conclusion that all this is being done with the sole aim of stripping Gen. Lebed of his post."

"His honesty, principled stance, and sincere concern for the fate of the army, his subordinates, and the families of his fellow-countrymen living in the region is not to the liking of certain circles," the officers believe. They claim that this is causing alarm and creating negative sentiments among officers. Given the complexity of the problems of reorganizing the army, the officers' meeting believes that "Gen. Lebed's presence in the 14th Army is essential, the reorganization should take place with him present." In the officers' opinion, this alone will ease the tension in the officers corps.

According to the information at my disposal, around 200 officers of the 14th Army, who are natives of the Dniester Region and have apartments in Tiraspol, have already firmly stated that, in the event of the army's being reorganized and reduced in size, they would go over to the Dniester Region's armed formations.

Paper Hits Latvian Response to Yeltsin Statement

MM0908124794 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Aug 94 First Edition p 2

[Report by Aleksey Solodov: "Who Is Getting Excited and Why. Latvian Side's Inappropriate Reaction to Russian President's Statement"]

[Text] As has already been announced, the Latvian Embassy in Moscow has circulated a document on behalf of the republic's Foreign Ministry. It expresses regret at the Russian president's statement of 4 August, which assesses the situation in Latvia in connection with the Saeima's repeat ratification of the discriminatory citizenship law.

We would remind you that Russia, as the statement says, cannot resign itself to the fact that hundreds of thousands of ethnic Russians have been put in what is effectively a humiliating position in a neighboring country. Russia will base its policy toward Latvia and plan its practical moves, the statement says, on the basis of the situation that has taken shape.

The document circulated by the Latvian Embassy is not signed but carries merely a date and the heading "Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia," and is written in English. Russia's statement, the document says, indicates the Russian side's inappropriate understanding of the moves taken by the Latvian parliament, in which connection the republic's Foreign Ministry is forced to express its regret.

What does all this mean? The Russian Foreign Ministry believes that the Russian president's statement by and large will not affect the previous Russian-Latvian accords regarding the date for the withdrawal of Russian troops from Latvian territory. However, it will affect the whole atmosphere of future Latvian-Russian relations, which will be starting with a clean slate after the Russian troop withdrawal from Latvian territory.

Certain international circles may think that the Russian statement constitutes interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state. However, I must point out that it is becoming increasingly difficult for Latvian politicians to defend themselves against the growing accusations of nonobservance of human rights; moreover, critical voices in the West are being heard more often. That, evidently, explains the publication of statements like the one cited above.

Foreign Ministry Dismisses Swedish Spy Affair

LD0908155194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1311 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Foreign Ministry spokesman Karasin told Interfax today that Moscow's official reaction to Swedish statements concerning the so-called Bergling affair will be made soon through diplomatic channels.

Stig Bergling was convicted in Sweden in the late 1970s for spying for the Soviet Union. In 1987 he escaped but recently returned to Stockholm were he gave himself up to the authorities.

Karasin said that the noise made by Sweden because of the affair was nothing more than an attempt to revive "cold archive material" which had long ago been closed. He said it must be an open question who needed to raise the matter again and "whip up passions". He added that "we cannot arrest Bergling anyway."

Afghanistan Seeks Resolution of Tajik Conflict

LD0908175694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1525 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Yuriy Tyssovskiy]

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Text] Moscow August 9 TASS—"The leadership of the Islamic state of Afghanistan with President Borhanoddin Rabbani at its head is interested in untying the knotty problem prevailing currently on the border between our country and Tajikistan, and will make sincere and honest efforts for normalizing the situation in this region," 'Abdolvahhab Asefi, ambassador of Afghanistan in Russia, said at a press conference held in the Russian-American press centre in Moscow today.

"We regard that this is an inernal problem of Tajikistan, which must be resolved through direct contacts, the Afghan envoy said. According to him, Kabul has made its contribution to the cause in bringing closer view points of the Dushanbe leadership and the opposition at the negotiating table.

Asefi said that at a meeting on this issue with Russian representatives, he had emphasised that for settling this problem, there is a need to coordinate actions of Russia and Afghanistan, including from the point of view of preventing penetration of borders in both directions by armed groups.

Afghan Ambassador Discusses Return of POWs

LD0908141494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1351 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yuriy Tyssovskiy]

[Text] Moscow August 9 TASS—"The leadership of Afghanistan always wanted to release the ex-Soviet prisoners of war staying in our country. This helped some of them to to return to Russia and other CIS states," Abdul Vahab Assefi, Afghanistan's ambassador to Russia, told Tuesday a news conference here in Moscow.

He said the problem is complicated by the fact that the Afghan authorities are unable to control many of mujahideen factions of different party affiliations which are holding the prisoners.

The ambassador said the Afghan government and President Bornahoddin Rabbani himself are negotiating over the issue with both the Russian authorities and Afghan field commanders who hold the ex- Soviet soldiers and officers. However, the dialogue is not always successful, the ambassador added.

First Round of Russian-Iraqi Talks Held in Moscow

JN0908204694 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1935 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Moscow, 9 Aug (INA)—The first round of Iraqi-Russian talks began today. This round concerns bilateral relations and coordinating the positions of both countries on some issues of common interest.

The Iraqi side to the talks was led by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Dr. Riyad al-Qaysi, while the Russian side was led by Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Kolokolov.

Dr. al-Qaysi told the Iraqi News Agency correspondent in Moscow that his meeting with Kolokolov was held to continue the discussion of issues pertaining to Iraq's implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions in order to secure the lifting of the unfair economic blockade. He asserted that the talks were held in an extremely cordial atmosphere. This [word indistinct] the two countries' eagerness to reach common understanding on the proposed issues.

He said that he will meet with Russian Acting Foreign Minister Ivanov tomorrow, Wednesday, to discuss the same issues, and that he will hold meetings with several Russian experts.

Al-Qaysi's visit to Moscow comes in the wake of Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz's visit to St. Petersburg and his meeting with Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev on 7 July. They discussed issues related to Iraq's fulfillment of its commitments in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions and what the Security Council should do in terms of steps compatible with what Iraq has done in order to lift the oil embargo and later the economic blockade as a whole.

In statements to the Russian press today, Kolokolov asserted that Iraq had implemented the UN Security Council resolutions. This was included in the report submitted by Rolf Ekeus, head of the UN Special Commission. He also pointed to the need for Russia to resume its economic relations with Iraq.

Kolokolov Amplifies Russia's Stance on Iraq

MM0908120394 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Aug 94 p 3

[Report by Konstantin Eggert: "Russian Foreign Ministry Proposing To Consider Saddam Husayn a Good Person"]

[Text] "It is naive to think that Saddam Husayn can be removed. He is a real politician. His behavior does not conform to universally accepted norms, but if he makes positive moves, why should that not be said for all to hear?"

These words were spoken by Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Kolokolov. He gave an interview to IZVESTIYA, in which he admitted that there are disagreements between Moscow and Washington on the Iraq issue. However, in his view, the conflicts should not be overexaggerated since during the UN voting Russia did nonetheless agree to keep the sanctions against Baghdad in force.

Kolokolov provided an insight into Iraqi Vice Premier Tariq Aziz's July visit to our country, which caused a lot of hullabaloo. "The initiative for the meeting came from him and I do not think that there were weighty grounds for refusing to receive a member of a government with which we have diplomatic relations," the deputy minister said. He admitted that, although Aziz came at the

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

invitation of the Iraqi ambassador, in other words as a private individual, his arrival aboard a small special aircraft was an open secret even to the ordinary staff at the government airport.

The diplomat avoided commenting on the Foreign Ministry's clumsy attempts to hush up Andrey Kozyrev's meeting with Saddam's emissary but the solution may lie in what the diplomat said about the foreign policy department's "secrecy for effect." The awkward maneuvers in connection with the minister's trip to St. Petersburg (it was there that the "historic meeting" took place) aimed not so much to observe secrecy as to demonstrate to the guest the department's concern for secrecy.

According to our interlocutor, Kozyrev presented Aziz with Moscow's viewpoint in extremely tough terms, to whit no lifting of sanctions until Baghdad recognizes Kuwait's independence and agrees to the demarcation of the border. Saddam Husayn must also take the trouble to clarify the fate of the Kuwaiti citizens who found themselves on Iraqi territory in 1990-1991—prisoners of war and civilians. Kolokolov believes that of late the Iraqis have done a great deal to implement the UN Security Council resolutions. Here he cited data from a report by Rolf Ekeus, head of the UN inspectors' mission to Iraq. "The difference between the Russian and U.S. positions is simple: People in Washington believe that Husayn's unreliability precludes anything but a supremely tough approach to him. We think that pressure on Baghdad will be more effective if it is stated publicly that 'there have been improvements, but such-and-such requirements must be met in order to receive such-and-such concessions,'" the deputy foreign minister said, adding: "One must act on the presumption of goodness rather than evil in relations with a state."

When asked how ethical it is from the viewpoint of the experience of the last few years to resume Russian arms shipments to Husayn's regime once sanctions are lifted, Boris Kolokolov replied: "Iraq has oil and will thus have money. If Baghdad needs Mirages, it will find out where to buy them. It was not only the Soviet Union that nurtured Husayn's military might, but also German, French, and other Western companies. We only have to sell armored personnel carriers for there to be an uproar, whereas I am convinced that the West will be able freely to supply Iraq with armored hardware and fighters. We must not voluntarily abandon the Iraqi market."

Moscow Weighs Sending Military Observers to Haiti

LD0908161994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1534 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Pyotr Cheremushkin and Andrey Shtorkh]

[Text] Moscow August 9—Russia does not plan direct involvement in Haiti settlement by force if the international political pressure appears to be insufficient for deposing the Haiti junta. At the same time, Russia may send a group of military observers in the course of the UN operation, head of the Russian foreign ministry's information and press department Grigory Karasin told a briefing here today.

In the words of Karasin, Moscow is closely watching the Haiti developments after the United Nations Security Council adopted resolution 940. The latter allows the use of all means to depose the military junta.

The resolution has actually sanctioned the use of force and no additional UN decisions will be needed to begin the implementation of the resolution, said Karasin. However, the Russian side does not think that the immediate use of force is inevitable, he added.

Russia positively estimates the striving of some Latin American nations to put additional pressure on the Haiti junta and try to persuade the military to resign and pass over their posts to civilians, said Karasin. The Haiti regime still has a chance to prevent unnecessary trials of its people and voluntary resign their commission they had usurped, he added.

Karasin Rejects Reports of Involvement in Yemen

LD0908184694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1813 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Pyotr Cheremushkin and Andrey Shtorkh]

[Text] Moscow August 9 TASS—Russia has followed a course aimed at settling the internal disputes in Yemen peacefully since the very beginning, and it took ultimate care to avoid any steps which could "add fuel to the flame" of the incipient conflict. In this connection, allegations about involvement of a Russian squadron of MiG-29 fighters in the civil war on the side of the South-Yemenese forces reported by THE WASHINGTON POST and THE SUNDAY TIMES last week cannot but cause bewilderment, Grigoriy Karasin, spokesman for the Russian Foreign Ministry, told a Moscow briefing on Tuesday.

The reports about the Russian squadron "were made so that to make an impression that the warplanes and pilots turned up in Yemen with "an informal sanction" or "a silent consent" of the Russian authorities", Karasin pointed out.

"In accordance with the principled position of Russia, Moscow resolved to suspend deliveries of "special property" to Yemen in the beginning of the year, that is, long before the start of military actions (in the country)," he said.

"Afterwards Russia supported actively resolutions No 924 and 931 of the U.N. Security Council and committed itself to strictly abide by non-supplying arms to the warring Yemeni parties" in accordance with these resolutions, he explained.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

"Russia's political course and its practical steps in the context of the Yemeni developments were explained repeatedly and in full detail at international contacts, including those with the mass media," he emphasized.

In the light of what was mentioned above, the way THE WASHINGTON TIMES [as received] and THE SUNDAY TIMES "treat" Russia's position arouses bewilderment, to put it mildly, Karasin concluded.

Humanitarian Aid to Rwandan War Victims Continues

LD0908203994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1913 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Pyotr Cheremushkin and Andrey Shtorkh]

[Text] Moscow August 9 TASS—A transport group of the Russian Ministry for Emergency Situations that has been in Tanzanian areas adjoining Rwanda (Ngara, Karagwe) since mid-May continues its work, head of the Russian Foreign Ministry's information and press department Grigoriy Karasin told a briefing here today.

The group includes three KAMAZ trucks, two refuelers, two mobile repair shops, a control car and special equipment, said the diplomat. In the first days of August the group ensured emergency evacuation of Russian citizens from Rwanda and delivered humanitarian cargo for refugee camps in Zaire.

Over 20,000 Hutu refugees were transported by the group from border areas to the Benako camp over the period of Russian participation in the humanitarian operation to aid civil war victims in Rwanda. The camp of Tutsi refugees located far from Hutu camps has been fully moved. Over 5,000 tones of foodstuffs and other humanitarian cargo has been transported in the area of Ngara and Karagwe. A list of refugees has been made in the Benako camp, said Karasin.

Fuel for vehicles of humanitarian organizations has been regularly delivered to Benako. A total of ten tones of milk powder has been brought to the town of Goma, Zaire. Another 100 tones of various cargo for local refugee camps will be delivered in the near future. Ten KAMAZ trucks have been donated to the office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees. Tanzanian drivers and mechanists have been trained.

Russia welcomes the results of the 30th session of the organization of African unity in Tunisia, said Karasin. This meeting has done much to prevent conflicts in Africa. "Russia highly estimates the readiness of Ethiopia, Nigeria and Tunisia to send military contingents to Rwanda within the framework of the U.N. peace-making mission," said Karasin.

"We share concern of the organization of African unity over a possibility of Burundi developments similar to those in Rwanda and determination of the organization to prolong its peace-making mission in that country. Ideas of possible actions to achieve progress in settlement in Angola, Somalia, Liberia, Mozambique and on the Cameroon-Nigerian border deserve attention," said the Russian Foreign Ministry's representative.

Moscow Concerned With 'Impasse' at Angolan Talks

LD0908195694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1318 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Petr Cheremushkin and Andrey Shtorkh]

[Text] Moscow, 9 August—"Moscow is gravely concerned about the impasse in the inter-Angolan talks in Lusaka (Zambia) at the final phase they have now reached." Grigoriy Karasin, director of the Foreign Ministry press and information department, stated this at a briefing at the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry today. He spoke about the situation in Angola in connection with the UN Security Council's planned consideration this week of the state of affairs in the country and progress with the internal Angolan settlement.

G. Karasin recalled that "UNITA leaders failed to agree to a package of national conciliation proposals by 31 July, despite an appeal by the UN Security Council set out in Security Council Resolution 932. These proposals were put forward by the UN secretary general's special representative and the group of three observer countries (Russia, USA, and Portugal) and they even-handedly took into account the interests of both the Angolan parties."

G. Karasin stressed that the Angolan Government had made "a difficult decision" and given a positive response to the proposals. The international community is expecting an appropriate reaction from UNITA to the flexibility and goodwill shown by the Angolan Government, he noted.

The Russian Foreign Ministry welcomes the recent initiative by South African President Nelson Mandela "to make a contribution to the Angolan settlement" and hopes that it "will enable results to be achieved within the framework of the international mechanism for a political settlement in Angola, based on the 1991 peace agreements." In connection with this, the Russian diplomatic department "thinks it necessary to call for the leader of UNITA to meet N. Mandela" and hopes that after these talks "Jonas Savimbi [UNITA leader] will agree to the package of proposals on a national settlement which guarantees UNITA representation in Angolan political power structures equivalent to the actual weight it carries."

As a member of the UN Security Council and the group of three, observer countries Russia is prepared to continue helping as much as it can in finding a just resolution to the internal Angolan conflict, Grigoriy Karasin stressed.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

ROK May Receive S-300 Anti-Aircraft Complexes

LD1008103094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0947 GMT 10 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Vladimir Solntsev]

[Text] Moscow August 10 TASS—Russia may supply to South Korea anti-aircraft missile complexes of the S-300 type if Seoul wishes to buy them, ITAR-TASS was told by Gennadiy Yanpolskiy, vice- chairman of the Russian state committee for defence sectors of industry. "We could agree to supply S-300 complexes to South Korea given its desire to buy them," he stated.

At the same time, Yanpolskiy noted that South Korea was mainly relying on U.S. weapons. The United States has trained the South Korean Army and is supplying it with "Patriot" anti-aircraft systems which are similar to the S-300. However, in his opinion, the S-300, which has already been shown to South Korean representatives, is superior to the "Patriot" as regards its detection distance, number of targets it can destroy, general reliability, and several other parameters.

Yanpolskiy flatly denied South Korean press assertions that Moscow and Seoul had allegedly reached agreement in principle on the delivery of MiG-29 fighters to South Korea. In his opinion, these warplanes could hardly be bought by South Korea, because their delivery involves a number of other problems—technical services, training of pilots and ground crews, etc., at a time when Seoul is wholly oriented towards cooperation with the Americans. Sources within the state committee for defence sectors of industry have nevertheless confirmed to ITAR-TASS that South Korean representatives had familiarised themselves with the MiG-29 plane in 1993 and this year, as well as with other weapon systems, the export of which was permitted by the Russian president.

The representative of the committee leadership believes that deliveries of defensive anti-aircraft systems and anti-tank guns was quite possible to South Korea. He thinks that no large deals are foreseeable and it is apparently a matter of a few units being sold, which will not yield much profit. He noted that there were various rumours, but no official talks or final decisions. He also said that the Russian weapon systems evoked interest not only in South Korea, but in North Korea, too.

Yanpolskiy drew attention to the fact that deliveries of Russian arms, if they actually take place, would by no means upset the balanace of forces on the Korean peninsula. He noted that "it is ridiculous" to expect arms deliveries to resolve the problem of the Soviet Union's debt to South Korea, inherited by Russia, incurred under credits, which, according to Seoul calculations, amount to 650 million U.S. dollars. He said that even if a part of the debt would be paid in this way Moscow would be faced with the problem of how to pay its plants for the produced weaponry.

The cooperation of the state committee for defence sectors of industry with South Korea is not limited, however, to potential arms deliveries. Yanpolskiy noted that a memorandum on mutual understanding in the sphere of the defence industry's conversion was signed between the Russian committee and the South Korean Ministry for Trade and Industry. ITAR-TASS has also learned from sources within the committee that the South Korean "Goldstar" corporation had bought several K-32T civilian transport helicopters during the February 1994 exhibition in Singapore. The delivery next year of four more similar helicopters and also of the same number of ship- borne K-32S choppers is now being negotiated.

U.S. Seen Exploiting DPRK Contacts

MM0908114594 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Aug 94 p 3

[Article by Manki Ponomarev: "DPRK-U.S.: Dialogue Resumed"]

[Text] After an almost month-long break, caused by the demise of North Korean leader Kim Il-song, talks between the DPRK and the United States have been resumed in Geneva. Problems concerning the normalization of bilateral relations and nuclear safety on the Korean peninsula will be considered at them.

Obviously, it should be recalled that the start of the talks was preceded by an acute political crisis. It was associated with the DPRK's decision to quit the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and its refusal to allow international inspections of nuclear facilities. The vociferous campaign launched in a number of countries on this issue really stoked up passions. The United States began to insist on the imposition of sanctions against Pyongyang, and U.S. armed forces on the Korean peninsula and the South Korean Army began to be placed in increased combat readiness. Military preparations were also stepped up in North Korea. Yet Russia's proposal to hold an international conference with the aim of discussing the problems that had emerged and normalizing the situation was shelved.

But neither of the sides took the matter to extremes. The DPRK consented to inspections of its nuclear facilities, and it made specific proposals on reducing tension in the peninsula, specifically by means of a proportional reduction in the armed forces stationed here of both Korean states and the United States.

The ways of implementing these proposals were to be discussed at the Geneva talks. They began in Geneva 8 July but were broken off the next day because of Kim Il-song's demise and the mourning in Pyongyang. Now the talks have been resumed.

So far only the first meetings of the delegations, headed by Kang Sok-chu, DPRK first deputy foreign minister, and Robert Gallucci, U.S. assistant secretary of state for politico-military affairs, have taken place. But even now

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

it is obvious that the discussions will go beyond the framework of purely nuclear problems. The discussions will be considerably broader and will concern economic and political relations between the two countries.

Judging from the reports being received from Geneva via ITAR-TASS channels, the Americans intend to take advantage of the change of leadership in Pyongyang in order to strengthen their influence in this vitally important region for Kussia which is directly adjacent to its Far East borders. Therefore, in seeking to obtain the DPRK's agreement to observe the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and to open all nuclear facilities to IAEA inspection, the United States is at the same time prepared to offer the North Korean side economic aid. It is also prepared to assist it in converting its nuclear power engineering from a nuclear electric power station with a gas graphite reactor, which was constructed in the past with the USSR's aid and which produces weapons-grade plutonium, to a Russian-made light-water water-moderated water-cooled reactor, which does not produce plutonium.

In this context observers note that both U.S. political figures and the U.S. press have appreciably changed their tone in relation to Pyongyang. Not without purpose. The United States is waiting for signals from the North Korean side as to what policy it now intends to follow, and is ready to exploit in its own interests the situation that has developed. Russia's interests in this region are of little concern to it. But for some reason no activity is evident on the part of Russian diplomacy, which is supposed to clearly define our country's position and firmly defend it.

'Hope' Expressed for Solution at U.S.-DPRK Talks

MM1008092194 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 10 Aug 94 p 1

[Article by Maksim Petrov under the "Topic of the Day" rubric: "Who Will Buy Pyongyang's Bomb"]

[Text] Peace of mind has to be bought. This is universally known. But North Korea recently stunned the world with an innovative interpretation of this truism. Pyongyang offered its nuclear program for sale. Those who were afraid of the military orientation of Korean nuclear ambitions could pay and thus eliminate any unease. The DPRK offers to replace its graphite reactors, which in principle could turn out bomb components [nachinka], with light-water reactors which cannot be used to do this. To all appearances, payment for this exchange should be made by the Americans since they are the ones who were most afraid about the appearance of a nuclear bomb in Korea's north.

An additional payment must also be made—the DPRK's diplomatic recognition by Western countries. In other words, what Pyongyang had been seeking most of all by leading a diplomatic dance to the tune of its nuclear program. Furthermore, the DPRK is hinting at financial aid.

Pyongyang's offer could be appraised as an effective and well-calculated diplomatic move. Especially bearing in mind the problems besetting the creation [sozdaniye] of an atom bomb in the DPRK.

Pyongyang's step was taken on the eve of the resumption of U.S.-North Korean talks on the nuclear problem, which were interrupted due to Kim Il-song's death. It could be assumed that the DPRK's readiness to completely abandon its atom bomb ambitions is proof of the new line of Kim Chong-il, the DPRK's present leader. But all this is more of an action planned a long time ago, testifying to the ambiguity and sophistication of North Korean diplomacy, which is seeking a way out of the country's complex international position.

It is hard to say whether the West, and primarily the United States, will move toward an implementation of the Korean plan, since this would require considerable financial investments. A rejection of Pyongyang's offer would give the Koreans additional trumps, enabling them to blame Washington's intransigence as regards the nuclear problem's solution. Here we are, they might say, ready to examine all options, even to sell everything lock, stock, and barrel, and yet we, a tiny nation, are being terrorized and forced to live according to rules invented across the ocean.

As for the suppositions already voiced in the press that the project's materialization would also mean a gain for Russia, which would receive the order to manufacture and install the new light-water reactors, the likelihood of this happening is minimal. The morsel is too tasty—U.S. and even South Korean firms are hardly likely to let this multibillion order slip by. Russia is being increasingly sidelined in Korean affairs. It looks as if, this time too, everything will be decided without our participation.

It appears that a quest for ways out of the nuclear blind alley in the Korean Peninsula is still better than balancing on the brink of conflict. Any proposals, whatever their form or content, inspire optimism and hope that this problem—artificially created to a large extent—will be resolved amicably. Not in the distant future, either, but already during the U.S. North Korean talks which resumed 5 August.

Specialists Discuss Construction of DPRK Reactor

LD0908184194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1706 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Marina Barinova]

[Text] Moscow August 9 TASS—Specialists from the Russian Ministry for Nuclear Power Engineering have discussed a possibility to replace the North Korean nuclear installation which may be used to make war plutonium with a light-water reactor, sources at the Russian ministry's information and public relations department told ITAR-TASS today.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

The work was done within the framework of the Russian-North Korean agreement. Under the agreement Russia is to build a nuclear power plant in North Korea, but the document fulfilment has been suspended due to the lack of the North Korean financing.

The ministry is ready to discuss again the construction of a nuclear power plant with three new generation reactors with a capacity of 640 megawatts each. This will considerably change the North Korean nuclear program and exclude a possibility to make plutonium in reactor installations. The project fully depends on solution of the financing problem.

Reliable sources in Tokyo told ITAR-TASS, that the Japanese Government is unofficially discussing possible participation in financing of the project that provides for the replacement of the current North Korean installation with a Russian light-water reactor. The Tokyo sources confirmed the discussion of possible Japanese participation in the multi-sided financing of the Russian oil delivery to North Korea to compensate the energy losses Pyongyang will have in case its current nuclear program is terminated or considerably changed.

Japan May Help Finance Reactor

LD0908143894 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1309 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Marina Barinova]

[Text] Moscow, 9 Aug—Specialists at the Russian Atomic Energy Ministry are considering a plan to supply a light-water reactor as a replacement for a nuclear installation in North Korea capable of being used to produce weapons-grade plutonium.

ITAR-TASS was told of this at the information and public relations department of the Atomic Energy Ministry. It was pointed out that work is being done under an existing treaty between Russia and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. According to the treaty Russia would build a nuclear power station there, but this has been suspended because of lack of finance in Korea.

The ministry is willing to look anew at construction of a nuclear power station, with three reactors of 640 megawatts each. This would significantly alter North Korea's nuclear program and practically rule out any possibility of using the reactors to produce plutonium. Whether the project goes ahead undoubtedly depends on a solution to the financial difficulties.

ITAR-TASS has also learned from reliable sources in Tokyo that the Japanese Government is unofficially considering a finance package for the project, whereby North Korea would receive a Russian-made light-water reactor in exchange for its existing nuclear installations, which can be used to make plutonium. Sources in Tokyo confirmed that Japan could also be involved in the multilateral financing of Russian oil deliveries to North Korea as compensation for the energy lost if Pyongyang were to halt or seriously alter its nuclear program.

Moscow Not To Supply Su-35 Fighters to China

LD1008095794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0926 GMT 10 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Vladimir Solntsev]

[Text] Moscow August 10 TASS—"The delivery of Russian Su-35 fighters to China is now out of the question," ITAR-TASS was told by vice-chairman of the Russian state committee for defence sectors of industry Gennadiy Yanpolskiy. He said that the plane still exists "mostly for demonstration purposes".

Yanpolskiy made this comment in connection with a recent report published in the Hong Kong magazine "JINGJI" that the state council of the People's Republic of China had adopted a decision to allocate five billion U.S. dollars in 1994 for purchasing Russian military materiel and its components, including Su-35 aircraft.

Yanpolskiy noted that only Su-27 and Su-30 planes were on sale today and that they were "perfectly competitive" with U.S. warplanes. He said that a number of Su-27 planes were already delivered to China.

The vice-chairman of the committee also said that China could continue to purchase Russian S-300 anti-aircraft missile complexes. He recalled that the Chinese had already bought four such units and had described them as "excellent defence systems" in many ways superior to the similar American "Patriot" anti-aircraft system, used during the Gulf war.

The president and government of Russia, Yanpolskiy said, "are very careful to whom and what Russia is selling". He stressed that all arms deliveries to foreign countries were attentively and comprehensively assessed from the point of view of the possible consequences, including the security of Russia itself.

Foreign Ministry Postpones Dalai Lama's Visit

LD0908111494 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0935 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS Andrey Bychkov]

[Excerpt] Moscow 9 Aug—The visit to three Russian republics—Buryatia, Kalmykia, and Tuva—planned by the spiritual leader of Tibet, the Dalai Lama, for mid-August has been postponed, an ITAR-TASS correspondent was told at Tibet's center for culture and information. This decision was taken "in response to an appeal from the Russian side," an official of the center, which is in Moscow, explained.

At the request of an ITAR-TASS correspondent, the Russian Foreign Ministry today set out Moscow's position on

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

the issue of the Dalai Lama's contacts with Russian buddhists, who number over two million: "We cannot tell the Dalai Lama what he should or should not be doing. We cannot interfere in his spiritual activities. But we have expressed the wish that he make this visit later, which would answer our state interests," said Andrey Smorodin, head of the Russian Foreign Ministry's First Department for Asia. He explained that it was necessary first and foremost to take account of the positions of Russia and China on this subject: Beijing is quite sensitive about all the Dalai Lama's movements abroad, all the more so since PRC Chairman Ziang Zemin is coming to Moscow on a state visit at the beginning of September.

In addition, following the principle of respect for China's territorial integrity—which means recognizing Tibet as an inseparable part of China—the Russian Foreign Ministry, Andrey Smorodin said, "does not welcome steps by the Dalai Lama to whip up separatist feeling in this autonomous region of the People's Republic of China." [passage omitted]

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Political Issues

Chernomyrdin Criticizes Performance of Ministries

LD0908180494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1610 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Tuesday's closed session of the presidium of the Russian Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, discussed the implementation of instructions on economic reforms following presidential decrees.

According to the government press service, Chernomyrdin told the session the Cabinet would demand unconditional and exact fulfillment of all orders by all ministries and agencies and hold responsible the leaders who procrastinate and demonstrate irresponsibility.

After the discussion the Cabinet decided to strictly punish several heads of federal ministries and agencies who failed to keep up with the timeframe set by the government for fulfilling presidential decrees.

The heads of the Ministries of Finance and Foreign Economic Relations, the State Property Committee and the State Committee for Construction answered for breaches in "executive discipline." The Economics Ministry was also subject to admonishment.

The heads of all these government bodies were instructed to apply tough measures, including written reprimands, and to hold officials who fail to carry out presidential instructions on time personally responsible. No decisions were taken to dismiss any government employees.

Murder Seen as Mafia Move To Control Oil Industry

LD0908181194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1711 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] The murder of the director of the Russian oil-producing corporation Megionneftegaz (Tyumen region, West Siberia) Anatoliy Kuzmin is another attempt by organized criminal groups to assume control over the Russian oil and gas industry, a source close to a leading Russian oil company told Interfax.

Kuzmin who also headed the mixed Slavneft company (formed by Megionneftegaz and Mozyr oil refinery for refining Russian oil in Belarus) was killed last Friday outside his house in Moscow.

The source informed Interfax that oilmen intend to urge the government and president to guarantee a thorough investigation of the case. Deputy Fuel Minister Anatoliy Fomin who was Kuzmin's predecessor as the director of Megionneftegaz supervises the investigation.

According to a high-ranking official in the presidential administration, Boris Yeltsin has been told about the circumstances of the assassination. "The response of presidential bodies to such developments will be tough," the official said.

According to independent sources, many oil and gas companies have decided to improve the security of their leaders. This applies to such giants as Lukoil and Yukos.

Prosecutor Asks for Acquittal of Varennikov

MK1008065094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 10 Aug 94 p 1

[Report by Tatyana Romanenkova under the "Justice" rubric: "Prosecutor Drops Charges. State Committee for the State of Emergency Case Seems To Fall Through"]

[Text] Yesterday's session of the Military Collegium of the Russian Federation Supreme Court hearing the case of General Valentin Varennikov can be rightly described as sensational. The session was expected to be devoted to the sides' pleadings, but there were no pleadings as such.

The words of State Prosecutor Arkadiy Danilov came like a bolt from the blue. Giving a detailed analysis of the facts, he stated that the charge was not proven and asked the court for acquittal. He said in particular that the well-known conference of the future members of the State Committee for the State of Emergency on 16 August [1991] at a secret location designated as "ABC" did not have the nature of a plot, it only set the goal of discussing the situation that had taken shape in the country. Mr. Danilov also pointed out that ex-president Mikhail Gorbachev had not used all the possibilities he had as an official, and all physical possibilities, to get in touch with Moscow or to leave the dacha in Foros.

Agreeing with the prosecutor, the defendant's lawyer added a few more facts wiping off the charge made, and urged the court to pass a just sentence—to acquit Valentin Varennikov. He also suggested that the court warn the law and order bodies which use their powers to fight dissent, and warn the mass media that spread lies and slander.

Today, Valentin Varennikov will appear in court with concluding remarks following which the court is to pass judgment.

Kalinin Joins Nuclear Power Plants' Protest

LD0908162994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1311 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] The action of protest staged by the personnel of the Smolensk and Kola nuclear power plants on Tuesday has been joined by the staff of the Kalinin nuclear power plant near Tver, trade union leader of the workers of nuclear power industry Vladimir Startsev told Interfax.

After hours the workers refuse go home in protest against wage arrears and the debts owed to them by consumers.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Startsev said that the Russian government must work out a method that would make delays in payments for electric energy unprofitable. He also said that many of the debtor-enterprises can repay their debts, but under the current system they cannot be forced to do so.

He stated that the personnel of nuclear power plants pinned great hopes on the recently established government commission for debts. "The consumers must be interested in paying for electricity on time," he said.

Because of the unpaid debts, some of the Russian nuclear power plants lack money for carrying out planned repair work and buying fuel. Wages and salaries are delayed by two or three months. On Tuesday, the protest action involved about 400 people.

An activist of the protest movement at the Smolensk nuclear power plant told Interfax that on August 11 the personnel would hold a meeting in front of the administrative building, where the managers of Russian nuclear power plants will meet with leaders of the ministries for atomic energy, energy and fuel, finance and economics.

Troubled Paper Appeals for Readers' Loyalty

MM0908193194 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 10 Aug 94 p 1

[Editorial message: "To Our Readers"]

[Text] Dear friends! Some of you have not received our newspaper for months. In the first half of the year it failed to appear for nine weeks out of 22 in many cities, rayons, villages, and hamlets. Now you are once again holding it in your hands. During this time we have received hundreds of letters. Some were endeavoring to give the editorial board moral support, expressing sympathy and understanding, and patiently waiting for matters to be righted. Others could not endure it—which is understandable!—and demanded their money back for their subscription, while some even brought an action against the editorial board, claiming moral and material damages. There were also friendly rebukes—in February, they said, you explained why the newspaper was not appearing, but in March you did not explain, even though you could have, because we would have understood you. There was good humor, such as "ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI has gone missing" [propali bez vesti]. We value every letter. We endeavored to reply to the majority of them.

What, then, happened? The newspaper was a casualty of its own success. In the first half of this year, compared with the second half of last, circulation (primarily on subscription) increased from 100,000 to 600,000. But since the production cost of each copy is greater than its market price, the losses also increased in the same ratio, i.e. sixfold. But the coffers were empty. The government adopted a policy of sharply reducing subsidies. No one had expected such a surge of interest in the newspaper. As a result, its material needs in the first half of the year could be funded by just 30 percent. Naturally, this at once brought about a reduction in the print run. Readers in the Urals, eastern Siberia, and the Far East suffered in particular. Those in the capital and in central oblasts suffered less. Some subscribers even decided that the center was again "traditionally" cheating them and making a saving at the expense of the periphery, that this was being done almost deliberately, etc. Of course, it was nothing of the kind; it was just that, the further from the editorial office, the more expensive it is to deliver the newspaper to subscribers.

It must be stated frankly that there is still not enough money. We are faced with the need to earn. An absolute majority of readers express the opinion that dominance by advertising must be resisted. This opinion is particularly characteristic of those who live far from the center, in the countryside, in small cities—in the so-called provinces, i.e. where the advertised goodies are least available. But our newspaper endeavors to work to a considerable extent precisely for this reader. Well, we ask him to understand us correctly and not complain if advertising sometimes elicits not the brightest of feelings. Many people might also dislike the fact that, in order to restore the full circulation, the number of pages has had to be reduced. On the other hand, as of yesterday, as we have already reported, the newspaper is being published everywhere that it was being printed previously, with the present exception of three cities.

The editorial board is doing everything to ensure that no enforced measures affect the newspaper's quality. We are a state publication, and this means that the reader's right to receive at first hand reliable and complete information on the state's activity will be complied with. The amount of information per page will increase. As previously, the weekly KURYER supplement will appear Thursdays. "Vekhi," "Retsept," and other sections and rubrics which have gained your persistent interest are being retained. There will also be innovations. The economic information gathered on the ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI display will be selected in such a way that it helps people to find their bearings in daily life. We will provide more consultations, advice, and answers to questions. There will be expanded publication of mail under the rubric "Letters to the Chief Editor" and others. We will endeavor to devote more attention to the life and problems of the Russian regions and the near abroad. For the regions it might be possible to publish a separate supplement in the form of a magazine.

Yes, things are difficult for the editorial board now, as for someone recovering from a heart attack. Those who have experienced something of the kind will particularly not take offense or be disappointed. We will do all in our power to ensure that the newspaper remains accessible in terms of price and attractive both outwardly and in terms of content. The editorial board asks you: Do not lose your loyalty to ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI; stay with us!

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Economic Issues

Officials Discuss 'Extremely Grave' Energy Situation

LD0908212794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1837 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] The situation in the Russian fuel and energy industry, which is already preparing for the winter, was described as extremely grave at a meeting, chaired by First Deputy Prime Minister Oleg Soskovets, of the government commission for day to day affairs (operativniye voprosi).

Fuel and Energy Minister Yuriy Shafranik reported that the stores of coal were five million tonnes, or 16 percent, below the 1993 level.

The Far East is the hardest hit with the stores of coal and fuel oil amounting to as little as 35 percent of last year's level. Shafranik expressed particular concern over Sakhalin and the Krasnoyarsk and Khabarovsk Territories.

He proposed that the refinancing rate for the credits granted to this industry be reduced by one third from the present 158 percent and that the industry's payment's to the federal budget be deferred until November 1.

Nuclear Energy Minister Viktor Mikhailov requested a loan of 750 billion rubles from the government and said that his ministry was prepared to cut energy tariffs.

Speakers at the meeting pointed out that due to non-payments, nuclear power stations are unable to buy fuel, leading to a rise in social tension. In particular, the Smolensk station has enough fuel only for another ten days. Wages have not been paid in some nuclear stations since April.

Vladimir Kashkin, deputy chairman of the Nuclear Energy Workers' Union Central Committee, said that political demands are being heard ever more often at protests staged by nuclear power station personnel.

The meeting decided that a government ordinance must be drafted on the preparation of the fuel and energy industry for the winter. The situation in the nuclear power industry is expected to be discussed by the commission on August 12 when the non-payment crisis will be on the agenda.

Fuel Industry Seeks Guarantees With Ukraine

LD0908162794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1311 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Russia will supply fuel to Ukraine for the sowing season, if Ukraine guarantees shipments in return, a representative of the Russian Fuel and Energy Ministry Stanislav Pugach told the Petroleum Information Agency.

The mutual delivery plan for 1994 stipulates that Russia's federal contract corporation, Roscontract, will send Ukraine 5 million tonnes of oil this year. Just 1.5 million tonnes has been supplied so far.

Meanwhile, direct shipments from Russia's private sector producers in the first half totalled 6.1 million tonnes.

Pugach said clearing shipments were slowed by Ukraine's failure to offer "equal deliveries of industrial goods to Russia and build housing for Russian fuel and energy complex employees."

He said Ukraine has been regularly straying from fuel debt payment schedules. Although it was supposed to pay $130 million for Russian gas in June, Ukraine paid just $15.5 million and DM [German marks] 1 million. The republic must pay $220 million in August.

Last year, Ukraine received an additional 2.6 million tons of oil for the sowing campaign. Since it has not paid for those supplies, Pugach said, Transneft, which delivered the oil, has been unable to pay customs duties and has been fined 1.37 billion rubles by Russia's State Customs Committee.

By June 1, 1994, Ukraine's debt to Russia for fuels totalled 2.1 trillion rubles, of which 1.8 trillion rubles for gas, 196.5 billion rubles for crude and 6.7 billion rubles for petroleum products.

Implementation of Economic Edict Discussed

MM1008081594 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Aug 94 First Edition p 2

[Interview with Vladimir Kvasov, leader of the Russian Government apparatus, by Aleksandr Batygin; date, place not given: "The Country's Economy Can Be Stable and Manageable"—first two paragraphs are introduction]

[Text] The Russian Federation Government has adopted a decree "On the Results of the Russian Federation's Socioeconomic Development in the First Half of 1994 and the Tasks for the Immediate Future" (the text was published in ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 3 August).

The editorial office has asked Vladimir Kvasov, leader of the government apparatus, to talk about the decree's importance, the tasks therein, and its role in Russian citizens' lives.

[Kvasov] The document that the government has adopted is the result of a detailed analysis of Russia's socioeconomic development during the first half of the year. It has provided an opportunity to formulate well-founded and feasible forward-looking tasks for the immediate future.

Detailed analysis of this half-year effectively summed up the implementation of the Russian Government's economic program in 1993-1994. The main objective of the

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

first phase of reforms—reducing the monthly rate of inflation from 25-30 percent to 5-7 percent while preventing mass unemployment—has been achieved. But tough anti-inflationary measures have inevitably brought about a decline in industrial production.

Based on the main task—stabilizing the country's economy—and mindful of the preliminary results of reform, priorities were laid down for the government's activity in the second half of 1994 and in 1995. To whit, structural changes in the economy and increasing investment activity.

[Batygin] Should one expect monetary-credit policy to be eased?

[Kvasov] Such binding plans do not mean an easing of monetary-credit policy. It will still remain moderately tough and I do not advise anyone to count on financial handouts from the government. We are waging too strenuous and vigorous a war on inflation to dissipate all our efforts overnight like that.

I would further add that the government's social policy is still a priority. I think it was no coincidence that the adjusted plan for the government's work in the second half of the year opens with this section. Federal executive organs have received specific instructions and are obliged to submit decisions within set timeframes regarding problems of social support for the least secure population groups, pension provision, the struggle against poverty, the development of medicine, treatment and recuperation services, and a number of other issues.

[Batygin] The adopted decree is not the government's first programmatic document. If you study the decree you notice that the decree is to a considerable extent linked with previous documents while some points even echo them. Is that true?

[Kvasov] Well, of course, continuity is essential in economic policy otherwise the sin of radicalism is inevitable—leaps forward, blips, and sudden shifts, which are particularly painful for society. Incidentally, it is impossible to achieve stability without evolutionary work, with every political step resting on the previous one. Then the chain of overall effort will be unbroken and the achievements more weighty.

The overall understanding of the problem fully conforms to the specific situation. By July this year we effectively had three economic action plans that were mutually complementary and developed one another. I am referring to the government's action plan for 1993-1994, adopted back in November 1993; the action plan to implement the measures envisaged in the president's message to the Federal Assembly "On Strengthening the Russian State (Basic Guidelines of Domestic and Foreign Policy)"; and also the series of measures envisaged by the series of presidential edicts on questions of economic reform this May-July. The adjusted plan which was adopted at the Russian Government session 15 July 1994 fuses and supplements the above documents.

It is easy to see that, in this specific situation, continuity in certain cases also allows for repetition. Well, there is no harm in repeating the details, the main point is not to lose sight of anything when problems are resolved in a systematic and comprehensive manner.

[Batygin] In your view, what effect are the adopted decisions having on the manageability of the processes taking place in the economy?

[Kvasov] In terms of content, the adopted document is specific both as regards the people who are to implement it, in its wording of the set tasks, and the dates of implementation, and as regards supervision of decision implementation. I think that this will create the requisite conditions for a further reduction in inflation, an improvement in the situation in the sphere of industrial production, the emergence of new enterprises, an increase in the number of jobs, the development of entrepreneurial activity, and a rise in the population's standard of living. All the things I have mentioned constitute the main signs of stability and consequently the manageability of the processes taking place in the economy.

[Batygin] How did the decision reflect the problems raised in the Treaty on Social Accord?

[Kvasov] The treaty devotes tremendous attention to overcoming the socioeconomic crisis. Within the treaty framework the Russian Federation Government pledged to resolve a whole range of top-priority socioeconomic tasks. These include reducing the level of inflation, boosting investment activity, improving the system of taxation, reorganizing the economy, creating conditions for the functioning of the agro-industrial complex, stabilizing and subsequently boosting the population's standard of living, and protecting the most vulnerable strata thereof. It has proved possible to perform some of these tasks. We have already mentioned that.

The basic provisions of the adopted decree "On the Results of the Russian Federation's Socioeconomic Development in the First Half of 1994 and the Tasks for the Immediate Future" aim to further implement the government's Treaty on Social Accord commitments. After all, you will agree, overcoming the economic crisis is the best contribution to social accord.

[Batygin] To what extent were the problems involved in the struggle against crime reflected in the government's decision?

[Kvasov] The main avenues of the government's work in the field of struggling against crime are laid down by the Russian Federation president's edict "On Urgent Measures To Implement the Russian Federation Federal Program on Intensifying the Struggle Against Crime in 1994-1995." The government constantly monitors the

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

activity of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Federal Counterintelligence Service, the State Customs Committee, the Tax Police Department, and the Ministry of Justice aimed at implementing the above presidential edict. A government decree of 26 July 1994 makes provision for these departments to be strictly accountable as regards the progress made in implementing the edict.

The high level of crime in the Russian Federation, in the economic sphere among others, is in many respects due to the incomplete legislative basis during the transition to a market economy. In this connection the adjusted action plan ratified by the government decree of 26 July 1994 envisages formulating a whole series of legislative acts (federal laws, government decrees) to promote a more effective struggle against crime.

[Batygin] One last question: How confident is the government of success in implementing the adopted decree that we have been discussing?

[Kvasov] The implementation of the decree "On the Results of the Russian Federation's Socioeconomic Development in the First Half of 1994 and the Tasks for the Immediate Future" is constantly and strictly supervised by the Russian Government. The progress made in implementing the decree will be periodically examined at government presidium sessions.

The targets envisaged by the government action plan are supremely concretized, brought to the notice of and coordinated with the people implementing them. Federal executive organs, as well as executive organs in Russian Federation components, have already built up definite experience in implementing market transformations in the economy and see ways of implementing this action plan. All these factors inspire confidence that the aims and tasks laid down in the decree will be implemented.

Regional Affairs

Chechen Opposition Appoints Prime Minister

LD0908194894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1837 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Ali Alavdinov, former businessman, was appointed premier of the government established by the opposition Chechen Interim Council.

The opposition headquarters in the Nadterechnyy Region (the Znamenskoye Village) told Interfax today that the names of other members of the government will be announced later after security for their family members can be guaranteed.

The same source told Interfax that the Interim Council is now creating its own local power structures. Delegations from different regions of Chechnya are arriving in the Znamenskoye Village.

Security was tightened in the Nadterechnyy Region in light of the threat of provocations from supporters of Chechen President Dzhokhar Dudayev. Some sections of the region's borders are patrolled with armored vehicles.

A representative of the Chechen opposition headquarters expressed concerned over the conflict between Cossacks and Chechens in the Stavropol Region. He did not rule out the possibility of Dudayev launching a provocation to destabilize the situation and trigger off a wide-scale conflict with Cossacks. He added that the opposition has demanded Dudayev's resignation.

Other Ministers Named

LD1008110894 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1026 GMT 10 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Bondarenko]

[Text] Znamenskoye (Chechen Republic), 10 Aug (ITAR-TASS)—The Interim Council of the Chechen Republic, which is demanding the removal of the Dudayev regime, has formed its own government of Chechnya. Ali Alavdinov, who used to be managing director of a large association, has been endorsed as its head.

An ITAR-TASS correspondent was told that the ministerial posts have been taken by professional leaders "with great experience of organizational work, who have not discredited themselves by active cooperation with the Dudayev regime." Thus, Alash Saykhanov and Bedrudi Dzhamalkhanov—"important leaders who have been persecuted"—have become deputy premiers.

The minister of foreign affairs and foreign trade, Ruslan Madiyev, graduated from the Moscow Institute of International Relations and used to be the republic's first deputy foreign minister. General Vakhay Ibragimov, who used to be minister of internal affairs of the Republic of Chechen-Ingushetia, has been appointed minister of internal affairs.

Interim Council Says Groznyy in 'State of Siege'

LD0908155594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1502 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Znamenskoye (Chechnya's Nadterechnyy Rayon), 9 Aug—The capital of Chechnya, Groznyy, is effectively in a state of siege, says a report today by the opposition interim council of Chechnya.

According to reports from Groznyy, in the republic's capital there are more and more rumours circulating that opposition forces will soon be entering the city.

At the same time Nadterechnyy Rayon, where the interim council is based, is being guarded by reinforced

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

posts and patrolled by armoured vehicles in view of possible provocations by official Groznyy.

The interim council continues forming the structures of power. The composition of the government set up yesterday is being kept secret for considerations of the safety of members of the families of the ministers, who are still in Groznyy.

The council announced the mass arrival in Nadterechnyy Rayon of representatives and delegations from other areas of the republic for talks.

Council Appeals to Caucasus Peoples

LD0908224994 Moscow 2x2 Television in Russian 1940 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] The Interim Council of the Chechen Republic has circulated an address to the peoples of the Caucasus in which it asserts in particular that the days of Dzhokhar Dudayev's regime are numbered. Recalling that there have been quite a few gloomy pages in the history of the peoples of the Caucasus, the council affirms that never has a single people been in opposition to the entire Caucasian fraternity and that Chechnya has become a reservation for Chechens.

Appeals to Russian Public

LD1008081594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0720 GMT 10 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 10 Aug—The Chechen Interim Council has appealed to Russian democratic public opinion, urging it to support the Chechen patriots who are concerned that Chechnya "has become a destabilizing factor in the Caucasus."

The appeal faxed to ITAR-TASS today notes that the democratic forces in Chechnya "have so far not received serious support from parties, public organizations, and movements in Russia. The support we need most is a correct assessment of the situation in Chechnya, dissociating the Chechen people from Dudayev's criminal entourage."

"Your voice in support of the democratic forces in Chechnya will help tear from the faces of Dudayev and his henchmen the masks of peace-makers and those who care for the future of Chechnya, the Caucasus and Russia as a whole," the appeal says.

In another appeal received by ITAR-TASS, the Interim Council calls on the peoples of the North Caucasus also to show solidarity with the Chechen patriots.

Moscow Chechens Call For Dudayev Resignation

LD0908191494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1703 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Moscow August 9 TASS—A meeting of delegates of Moscow's Chechens on Tuesday called on Dzhokhar Dudayev and his surrounding to "quit Chechnya's political stage with dignity, acknowledging their fiasco and without provoking a military- political conflict," ITAR-TASS reported on Tuesday.

The Chechens of Moscow appealed to the Russian president, the government and the federal assembly to consistently handle the multiple Chechnya-related issues using political methods, not force. "A power intervention would only strengthen the present regime which is now agonizing and ready to fuel a large-scale conflict in Russia in order to survive," the statement from Moscow's Chechen diaspora says.

The meeting participants stated support to "constructive moves of Chechnya's interim council" which had been set up by the Chechen National Congress on June 4, 1994. However, the meeting strongly spoke against "anyone's attempts to reach the goal by unleashing a fratricidal war."

The meeting's statement expressed support to July 18 comment on "the situation in the Chechen Republic" of Ruslan Khasbulatov, the former Russian Parliament chairman. It also called on the Russian leadership to help Chechnya in establishing the constitutional order and civil accord.

Chechen Vice President Warns of Military Threat

LD1008120094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1032 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Chechen Vice President Zelimkhan Yanderbiyev said that the likelihood of force being used by Moscow against Chechnya is higher than ever before.

"This risk is not exaggerated," he said in an interview on Wednesday.

President Dzhokhar Dudayev's staff does not rule out that the Congress of Chechnya's Peoples, convened in Groznyy on Wednesday, may call for general mobilization, given that "the Russian troops around Chechnya have been put on combat alert."

Vice President Yanderbiyev said that support for President Dudayev was unambiguous and "the people will not let him go."

Yanderbiyev said that the Congress of Chechnya's Peoples has been convened in response to "an all-out anti-Chechen campaign being waged by the Russian leadership, which has already taken the form of intervention in the republic's internal affairs."

Reports delivered to President Dzhokhar Dudayev on Tuesday evening warn of Russian troops being moved into Chechnya within the next week. They say that Russia's General Staff held "exercises to practice an invasion of Chechnya."

The reports also indicate the likelihood of three regiments of the Penza Airborne Division, three tank battalions of the Seventh Tank Army and three regiments of

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

the Novorossiyisk Interior Ministry division participating in the military maneuver, and claims that these forces underwent special training.

When asked about his source of such confidential information, President Dzhokhar Dudayev said: "I receive much information from sources in Russia proper."

Russian Military Denies Reports of Imminent Attack

LD1008120694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1032 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] The Russian military have denied allegations from official Groznyy that Russian army units and Interior Ministry troops are preparing for deployment in Chechnya as soon as this week.

The press center of Russia's land troops told INTERFAX that "the Seventh Army, mentioned by Chechen military circles, and which used to be stationed in Armenia, was disbanded three years ago."

The officer in charge of Russia's Interior Ministry troops commented on the allegations by official Groznyy concerning the Novorossiyisk Division units in the same way. "Such units have never been deployed in that city," he stressed.

Khasbulatov Receives 'Hero's Welcome' in Groznyy

LD0908151594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1435 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Znamenskoye (Chechnya, Nadterchnyy Rayon), 9 Aug—Former speaker of the Russian Supreme Soviet Ruslan Khasbulatov received a hero's welcome in Groznyy. A convoy of about 200 cars accompanied him to the square in front of Dzhokhar Dudayev's palace, where the former speaker was greeted by a chaotic gun salute, says a statement released today by Chechnya's opposition interim council.

Such a reception, in which one of Dudayev's main opponents is saluted outside the presidential residence, is a clear indication that Dudayev has no control over the situation, not just in Chechnya as a whole, but even in Groznyy itself, the statement notes.

Dudayev Charges Khasbulatov Preparing To Take Power

LD0908171894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1613 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Vladimir Kikilo and Aleksandr Nechayev]

[Text] Moscow August 9 TASS—President Dzhokhar Dudayev does not directly relates the recent Chechen developments to Russian President Boris Yeltsin and thinks that tension in the Chechen Republic is beneficial for the forces that want to stage a coup in Moscow itself.

Ex-Russian parliament speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov has come to Groznyy to work out a script of his power-taking in Moscow through the creation of an opposition organization similar to the provisional council of Umar Avturkhanov, said Dudayev. In his words, the council is a "sabotage-terrorist group sent from Russia."

"Khasbulatov is getting ready to open his administration in Russia and create an alternative government," the Chechen president told ITAR-TASS over the telephone today.

In his opinion, Khasbulatov will unite with ex-Vice-President Aleksandr Rutskoy and ex-Chechen Communist leader Doku Zavgayev to achieve this goal. Dudayev believes that Khasbulatov has no chance for success in the Chechen Republic after the "elders expelled him from their meeting today."

As for the predictions that Dudayev may leave for an Arab state, Dudayev said he is difficult to frighten. "Dudayev has iron nerves," he said.

Khasbulatov Claims Dudayev Regime 'Doomed'

MM0908151094 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Aug 94 p 1

[Report by Valeriy Vyzhutovich: "Chechnya's Elders Have Declared the Self-Styled Peacemaker Persona Non Grata"]

[Text] Groznyy—Ruslan Khasbulatov arrived in Groznyy 8 August on a peacemaking mission in a silver Mercedes escorted by a motorcade of vehicles, from whose windows guards were deafeningly firing assault rifles into the air all the way through the city. Two hours after arriving at the house where his mother and brother live, the former Russian [Supreme Soviet] speaker granted IZVESTIYA an interview.

"I intend to promote the peaceful settlement of relations between the Chechen authorities and the opposition," he reported. "My representatives have already held preliminary talks with esteemed people on both sides involved in the conflict. Russian troops should not be brought in here to resolve the power crisis in Chechnya. I propose to the opposition and the president, first, that they not use weapons; second, that they sit around the negotiating table; third, it is necessary to secure Dudayev's voluntary resignation, guaranteeing his future safety."

In Khasbulatov's opinion, 99 percent of the republic's population do not support their president, and so the Dudayev regime is doomed, the former speaker believes.

Ruslan Khasbulatov also reported that he intends to have a detailed discussion with Umar Avturkhanov, chairman of the Interim Council: "I met with him in

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Moscow. Why not meet with him here too? I will urge the republic's democratic forces to trust the Interim Council."

Khasbulatov did not, however, rate highly the political potential of the leader of the opposition, since Avturkhanov "displays complaisance toward the Kremlin." Taking this vexing circumstance into consideration, the former chairman of the Russian parliament voiced readiness to support the head of the Interim Council by means of his own authority.

Ruslan Khasbulatov was one day late with his emergency peacemaking: There was bloodshed Sunday in Nadterechnyy Rayon, where the Interim Council staff is located. The first bloodshed since Umar Avturkhanov proclaimed the Dudayev government overthrown and proclaimed a new power in the republic.

The details of what happened are as follows. On 7 August several busloads of old men, also peacemakers, set out for Nadterechnyy Rayon from the republic's cities and villages. In the village of Chulga-Yurt the convoy was halted by an armed opposition picket, and one of the old men received a tangential bullet wound. According to information from the State Security Department of Chechnya, the bullet was fired by one of the Russian special purpose troops stationed in the settlement of Znamenskoye. According to information from the same source, Cossack mercenaries are being recruited on the territory of Krasnodar and Stavropol Krays for Avturkhanov's detachments. The monthly wage of the "soldiers of fortune" is 1 million rubles.

The CHECHENPRESS agency has disseminated a report: "On 8 August the Chechen Armed Forces Main Staff received operational information from sources close to Russian military-political circles that the Novorossiysk Division had been ordered to perform a combat task on the territory of the Chechen Republic."

On 8 August a directive of the federal Ministry of Transport stopped air traffic between Russia and Chechnya. This is the sixth air blockade of the republic.

Dzhokhar Dudayev issued a statement Monday: "I am prepared to resign even today and to cease political activity forever if the Chechen Republic is recognized as a subject of international law. If Russia and the world community respect the Chechen people and their right to independence, I will not be a stumbling block on this path and will fulfill my promise."

Tuesday [9 August] morning a delegation of the Chechnya Council of Elders set out for Khasbulatov's house but was stopped by a large detachment of guards circling the district. For 30 minutes the old men sought an audience. Finally two of them were admitted to their distinguished fellow countryman and declared that his presence in the republic during these days is categorically undesirable, since it can only exacerbate the situation.

At the Russian Defense Ministry Information and Press Directorate our correspondent was told that none of the information about the participation of Russian troops in combat operations in Chechnya tallies with reality. Russian Army units and combined units are at their points of stationing and are engaged in planned combat training.

Khasbulatov To Form Chechen Opposition Commission

LD1008121094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1032 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Former speaker of Russian parliament, Ruslan Khasbulatov, currently in Chechnya, intends to enter into negotiations with the forces opposing President Dudayev so as to form a conciliatory commission.

Interfax's correspondent reports from Groznyy, with reference to reliable sources, that an agreement on this score has already been reached in principle. Khasbulatov, who is currently in the village of Tolstoy-Yurt near Groznyy, will hold a meeting with opposition leader Umar Avturkhanov shortly.

The proposed conciliatory commission is expected to include official representatives and opposition members.

This week Khasbulatov arrived in Chechnya from Moscow to act as a mediator in the efforts to settle the conflict between official Groznyy and the opposition.

Chechnya To Introduce Passports, Currency 1 Sep

LD0908173894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1610 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] The Chechen republic continues to develop its own state symbols and the features of a sovereign state. The first 110,000 Chechen passports are reportedly off the press. The passports have 19 forms of counterfeit protection and will be of three types: diplomatic, business and general. Their distribution is expected to begin after September 1.

The first Chechen currency has also been issued: coins called nakhars and banknotes called tyums. The new currency is also to be introduced in September.

Chechnya is currently working on designing its own military medals.

Chechen Congress To Express Support for Government

LD0908204894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1750 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Kikilo]

[Text] Moscow August 9—An extraordinary congress of the Chechen people will express full support to the Chechen government, Chechen Vice-President

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Zelikhman Yandarbiyev told ITAR-TASS over the telephone today. The congress will, certainly, support the government because it is fully supported by the people, said the official.

In the words of the vice-president, the congress will be held "in response to the insistent appeals of citizens in connection with the situation in the Chechen republic and around it that was shaped up by Russian propaganda and sabotage groups of Avturkhanov, Khasbulatov and others sent to the republic." He said that this forum is a historical form of decision-making of the Chechen people. It is expected to be attended by 655 delegates, all of them Chechen citizens.

The elders expelled visiting Ruslan Khasbulatov from their meeting today as, in their words, he came to the republic "to do harm." Yandarbiyev said that Avturkhanov, Khasbulatov and others "are a single sabotage group" which seems to receive much money from Russia.

Mamodayev Not To Attend

LD0908172494 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1517 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Text] Groznyy, 9 Aug—Yaragi Mamodayev, head of the opposition government of national trust of Chechnya, will apparently not be taking part in the work of the Chechen People's Congress, which meets in Groznyy tomorrow—and not by any means because he is now in Moscow.

In a telephone conversation with the ITAR-TASS correspondent, Mamodayev said today that such an important forum as the all-national congress, even if it is an extraordinary one, could not and should not be hasty.

The gathering of pro-Dudayev forces planned for tomorrow, he said, reminds one more than ever of the meeting of anti-Dudayev forces held two months ago in Nadterechnyy Rayon, which gave carte blanche to Umar Avturkhanov to declare himself the new leader of Chechnya.

A congress of the people, Mamodayev is convinced, cannot be Dudayevite or Avturkhanovite or Mamodayevite. It must be an expression not of anyone's clan ambitions, but of the common national interests of the whole Chechen people at one of the gravest moments of its history.

Chechn Congress Opens in Groznyy

LD1008092894 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0844 GMT 10 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 10 Aug—A congress of the Chechen nation has opened in Groznyy today. It is thought that various public organizations will be discussing the situation in and around the Chechen Republic at the congress.

As yet there is no information on who is taking part in the congress. However, Movlen Salamov, an aide to the Chechen president, told ITAR-TASS in an interview on Tuesday, "the congress is not taking place at our instigation. It was asked for by the rayonms, the council of elders, and the muftis." According to Salamov, representatives of all backgrounds and rayons, including Nadterechnyy Rayon, where the opposition headed by Umar Avturkhanov is based, should be assembling. Representatives of Nadterechnyy Rayon have arrived in Groznyy.

Yaragi Mamodayev, head of the opposition government of national trust in Chechnya, who is in Moscow, decided not to take part in the congress of the Chechen people. Talking to the ITAR-TASS correspondent, he called the congress "a gathering of pro-Dudayev forces, more reminiscent of the assembly of anti-Dudayev forces that was held in Nadterechnyy Rayon two months ago and that gave Umar Avturkhanov carte-blanche to proclaim himself the new leader of Chechnya."

A congress of the people, Yaragi Mamodayev is convinced, cannot be for Dudayev or for Avturkhanov or for Mamodayev. It should not express clannish ambitions but the interests of the whole Chechen people at one of the most grave times in its history.

Dudayev To Follow Up With Statement

LD1008092194 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 0800 GMT 10 Aug 94

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] A Congress of the Chechen Nation is scheduled to be held in Groznyy today. According to Chechen Vice President [Movlen] Salamov, the congress will be attended by representatives of all clans and districts, including Upper Terek, where the opposition, headed by Umar Avtorkhanov, is based. It is reported that representatives of that area have already arrived in Groznyy.

According to Chechnya's Interim Council, the Chechen capital Groznyy is effectively in a state of siege. There are more and more rumors that opposition forces will soon enter the city. The Upper Terek district is now guarded by reinforced outposts and is being patrolled by armored vehicles for fear of a provocation which might be staged by the Groznyy authorities.

The Interim Council continues to form power structures. However, the composition of the government is being kept secret for security reasons. At the same time Chechnya's interim council fears that because of provocative activities by certain Cossack atamans and, according to reports, agents of President Dudayev, a conflict could break out in Stavropol Kray between Cossacks and Chechens. According to ITAR-TASS, Chechens are now leaving the kray.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

The Interim Council's statement also describes the welcome given to Ruslan Khasbulatov in Groznyy. He was greeted as a hero. About 200 vehicles escorted Khasbulatov to the square in front of Dudayev's palace. Here the former speaker was hailed with a volley of shots in the air. The Interim Council regards this as a sign that the Chechen president has, to some extent, lost control of Groznyy.

Meanwhile, the president of Chechnya told an INTERFAX correspondent in Groznyy that he will declare mobilization if this is recommended by the congress of the republic's peoples. Such a decision may be made today. After the congress is over, Dudayev intends to deliver a political statement.

Nine Chechen Regions Urge Immediate Martial Law

LD1008122094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1130 GMT 10 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lyudmila Perkina]

[Text] Moscow August 10 TASS—Nine out of 17 Chechen regions represented at the Congress of the Chechen Nation urged President Dzhokhar Dudayev "to immediately introduce martial law, announce total mobilisation to repel aggression of the Russian army", Dudayev's spokesman Khasim Raduyev told TASS by telephone on Wednesday.

He said that the congress which opened today in the Chechen capital is a unique forum which is convened only in extremely dangerous moments. "In the 20th century the congress is called up for the first time when foreign aggression threatens the republic", Raduyev said and stressed that the congress adopts decision for the whole of the Chechen people.

President Dudayev is expected to address the congress, he add

Opposition Fears Cossack-Chechen Clashes

LD0908171494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1613 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By unidentified ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Znamenskoye, the Chechen Nadterechnyy region, August 9 TASS—The Chechen opposition provisional council headed by Umar Avturkhanov fears a conflict between Cossacks and Chechens in the Stavropol region in connection with provocative actions on the part of some Cossack atamans and agents of President Dzhokhar Dudayev.

A report of the Provisional Council circulated here today says that the council is alarmed with the outflow of Chechens from the Stavropol region. In the opinion of the council, the outflow is caused by Groznyy agents that threaten Chechens with repressions on the part of Russians, and such figures as Ataman Rakiyev who actually terrorizes Chechens.

The council does not exclude possible provocations on the part of Dudayev forces against Cossacks. "The agonizing regime is ready to do everything to preserve power and a conflict between Cossacks and Chechens will be a salvation for it," says the report.

The situation in the Chechen Republic remained relatively calm on August 8-9, reports the provisional council.

Cossacks Deny Planning 'Invasion'

LD1008091394 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0837 GMT 10 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Styazhkin]

[Text] Stavropol, 10 Aug—Cossack formations are not concentrating on the border with Chechnya, nor are they planning "an invasion of Chechnya," contrary to claims made in Groznyy.

Asked by the ITAR-TASS correspondent to comment on such suggestions circulated by Dudayev's regime, the ataman board of the Stavropol Kray Cossack union said Cossack posts had indeed been set up in the border areas of Stavropol Kray, but all they were doing was checking, together with the militia, the flow of passenger and cargo transport to prevent illegal passage of weapons. The Cossacks hope their patrols will reduce the likelihood of Chechen bandits taking hostages again, as they have already done three times.

Altogether some 500 Cossacks are working shifts in the patrols.

Dudayev Representatives Deny Power Struggle

LD0908141694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1355 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Text] Groznyy August 9 TASS—Several Dzhokhar Dudayev's representatives have denied allegations that several centres of power have appeared in the republic, that there is unrest in the local troops, and that the decrees and orders of the Chechen president are being ignored.

"Any army can envy the morale of our soldiers and officers," ITAR-TASS was told today by Colonel Aslan Maskhadov, chief of the general staff of the Chechen armed forces. He said that the Chechen army would come out without any hesitation in defence of the republic at the very first signal of its commander-in-chief.

Heads of most of the local administrations, who spoke on the local television late on Monday evening, said that the entire territory of the Chechen Republic was under

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

the control of the official authorities except the Znamenskoye settlement, where "Umar Avturkhanov's provisional council is entrenched". They demanded from Dudayev the immediate convocation of a nation-wide "congress of the country", as they put it. The essence of their statements goes to show that Dudayev is compelled to agree with the idea of such a congress, but wants it to be prepared and held under his control.

Additional emotions were stirred by Ruslan Khasbulatov, who arrived in Groznyy on Monday. During a short meeting with his fellow-countrymen, he again said that he was ready to mediate a peaceful settlement of the crisis. The former Russian parliament speaker is expected to go today to Nadterechny district, from where he will proceed to Sochi for vacation. As earlier reported, he was stripped of the right to live in the Chechen Republic two months ago. But the Groznyy authorities have not shown any desire to deport him at present. A group of aldermen today tried to meet Khasbulatov. But he received only one of them and was immediately stigmatised by the local radio for disrespect of Chechen traditions, which honour the old folk.

Dudayev is reportedly working in his office according to the usual agenda.

Chechnya Officials Deny Polyarchy

LD0908111894 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1005 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sharip Asuyev]

[Excerpts] Groznyy, 9 Aug (ITAR-TASS)—Dzhokhar Dudayev's representatives deny that there is polyarchy in Chechnya, that troops are demoralized, and that presidential edicts are being ignored.

"The spirit of our soldiers and officers could be the envy of any army," Colonel Aslan Maskhadov, chief of the general staff of the Chechen armed forces, told ITAR-TASS today. He said the Chechen army is prepared to defend the republic without any hesitation at the first call from the commander in chief.

Speaking on local television late last night, the heads of the majority of local administrations said that Chechnya's official authorities are controlling the entire territory of the republic except the village of Znamenskoye which is being held by Umar Avtorkhanov's Interim Council. They demanded that Dzhokhar Dudayev immediately convene a nationwide congress of the country. [passage omitted]

A group of elders tried to see [former Supreme Soviet Speaker Ruslan] Khasbulatov today but he received only one of them, and because of that he was immediately accused by local radio of disrespect for Chechen traditions and elders.

It is reported that Dudayev is working in his office as normal.

Filatov Blamed for Anti-Chechen 'Sabotage'

MK1008072594 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 10 Aug 94 p 1

[Report by Natalya Pachegina under the "Chechen Republic" rubric: "A Total of 100 Billion Rubles from the State Budget. Such Are the Russian FCS' 'Chechen' Costs"]

[Text] This sum, which Sultan Geliskhanov, chief of the Chechen Republic National Security Service, thinks must hold some interest for a Russian taxpayer, has been spent by the Russian intelligence service on organizing subversive operations, terror, sabotage, propaganda, and agitation, and also direct military invasion of Chechen territory. For all its professionalism inherited from the KGB, the Russian Federal Counterintelligence Service [FCS], said Geliskhanov, who heads its Chechen counterpart, is merely an agency carrying out the political will of the top Russian leadership, which has authorized the three-year underground subversive activity aimed at toppling the constitutional order of the Chechen Republic of Ichkeriya. In a private conversation with your NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA correspondent, "Chechnya's counterspy No.1" named at least two centers operating against the Chechen state—one in Moscow and the other in Stavropol. They are both engaged in subversive activities on Chechen territory.

According to Geliskhanov, who said he has irrefutable evidence, FCS anti-Chechen propaganda exploits the names of Ruslan Khasbulatov; Doka Zavgayev, former chairman of the Chechen-Ingush Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic; Russian Army General Aslanbek Aslakhanov; Yaragi Mamodayev, deputy prime minister of the nonexistent "national confidence government"; and former USSR Supreme Soviet Deputy Salambek Khadzhiyev. Nor does Russia hesitate to employ the services of "terrorists" recruited from among those fallen from President Dudayev's grace, such as Bugayev, Avturkhanov, Gantamirov, Dzhamalkhanov, Suleymenov, Labazanov, Suleymanov, and others. Groznyy has learned that many of the "politicians" named by Geliskhanov hold official identity cards of paid workers of the Russian FCS and the Security Ministry. According to the Chechen National Security Service's information, Geliskhanov said, the number of saboteurs lured by high fees is on the increase owing to regular "reinforcements" from the criminal world: The FCS is recruiting "volunteers" in all of Russia.

Curiously, the Chechen National Security Service chief believes that the sabotage activity against Chechnya, which he thinks was instigated by the Russian executive authorities, has been going on without Russian President Boris Yeltsin's consent; Groznyy thinks that he has been deliberately "excluded" from the internal political game and is not aware of the situation. When asked by your NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA correspondent who in the Russian elite actually runs the country's internal policy and who, specifically, is "supervising" relations with

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Chechnya, Chechen National Security Service chief Geliskhanov named presidential administration chief Sergey Filatov. Now that Sergey Shakhray, Gennadiy Burbulis, and Yevgeniy Primakov, who owe their current inaction to Filatov, have been "neutralized," the vacuum that has now emerged around the Russian president, who continues to symbolize the image of a democratic Russia for Chechnya, is turning Russia into a dangerous neighbor, whose actions do not guarantee peace and prosperity to all peoples, Geliskhanov thinks.

Rutskoy Seen Organizing Opposition in Penza

MM0908140094 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 9 Aug 94 p 2

[Report by Aleksandr Knyazev under the "Politics in Persons" rubric: "The Road From Former to Present People Is Thorny"]

[Text] Penza—Penza is the 10th region that Aleksandr Rutskoy, ex-vice president and former inmate of Lefortovo, has now managed to visit. To judge from the substance of his replies to questions from listeners and journalists, the purpose of his trip to Penza is to create an organized opposition to the existing power.

Aleksandr Vladimirovich's abusive assessments of the powers that be were the usual ones. But this time he also hit out at his previous fellow travelers in the corridors of power. "Anpilov and Barkashov are useless tacticians," he said. "This was why we lost on 3 October 1993." Even Mr. Zhirinovskiy has become one of Yeltsin's yes-men.

Aleksandr Vladimirovich also did not forget to emphasize his own attitude to the press in general and to ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in particular (he actually mentioned ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI twice). "It has totally fallen apart," A. Rutskoy emphasized. "The time will come when an objective investigation will be conducted into the texts of ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI and the similar press (particularly with regard to coverage of the events of 3-4 October 1993)." With all the ensuing consequences, of course.

This time he even hit out at the Russian people themselves. They, in Rutskoy's opinion, stayed silent during the events of 3-4 October 1993. He sees as the reason for this the fact that "we have lost the healthy Orthodox way of life." Alexander I complained about this, and now it is being repeated by Aleksandr Vladimirovich.... (Could he be Alexander IV?).

To get away from such assessments and parallels, the prosaic purpose of Rutskoy's trips is really to try to unite communists, democrats, and anarchists. Of course, under his--Rutskoy's—banner. Superficially he is disguising himself today as the ordinary initiator of the creation of the "Power" movement.... But tomorrow? "If the movement proposes me as president, I will not, of course, refuse," he admitted in a fit of candor.

This is what is alarming: There is fertile soil for overt populism on the Volga today. Its effect on the people of Penza has already been approved by Zhirinovskiy, who picked up a weighty number of votes here, and by Viktor Ilyukhin, who rode into the State Duma on this steed. We will see whether this bears fruit for Rutskoy this time.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

International Affairs

Kuchma's Foreign Policy Explained to UN

LD0908172594 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1300 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Ambassador Oleksandr Slipchenko, Ukraine's permanent representative at the United Nations, visited the director-general of the UN Geneva Office and informed him of the content of the foreign policy statements made by Leonid Kuchma, president of Ukraine.

Ukraine's permanent representative noted that our country's international policy would continue to consist of its strict adherence to the UN Charter and other international obligations. Oleksandr Slipchenko stressed the interconnection of Ukraine's resolution of political and economic problems and expressed hope not only for understanding, but also for support for Ukraine's efforts on the part of the United Nations and other international organizations, to the participation of which the country's leadership attaches great importance.

The director-general of the UN Geneva Office assessed positively the Ukrainian state's intention, expressed by Leonid Kuchma, to continue vigorous diplomatic activity in the sphere of control over armaments and disarmament. He welcomed Ukraine's intention to play a greater role in the development of regional cooperation and noted the fact that it is impossible to effectively resolve the continents greatest problems without the participation of such a European state as Ukraine, was becoming ever more evident.

Foreign Policy Guidelines 'Could Be Updated'

LD0908202994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1837 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Ukrainian Foreign Ministry Anatoliy Zlenko did not rule out that the guidelines for Ukrainian foreign policy could be updated as a result of the recent parliamentary and presidential elections in the republic.

Zlenko said in an interview with Interfax-Ukraine today that the main principles of the Ukrainian foreign policy will not be changed. He said these were the principles of equal rights, non-interference in the domestic affairs of other countries and implementation of all international obligations assumed by the country.

Zlenko said some directions in Ukrainian foreign policy are now being worked on. He said these were corrections made by the reality of today's life and which were stated by Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma in his inaugural speech and in his address to the diplomatic missions in Kiev.

Zlenko said he believes it necessary to pay more attention to developing relations with the CIS countries and to settle the sore points in Russian-Ukrainian relations. Zlenko stressed that Ukraine will consider development of bilateral relations with CIS countries as the priority of its foreign policy. He added that many problems could be resolved at the bilateral level.

Zlenko Notes Position on Bosnia

LD0908202694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1930 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Ukraine's position on the Bosnian conflict is special since Ukrainian servicemen are in the UN peacekeeping forces on Bosnian territory, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko told Interfax-Ukraine today.

Zlenko said Ukraine does "not welcome" the refusal of the Contact Group peace plan by the Bosnian Serbs. He voiced hope that all parties concerned will work towards settling the conflict only by peaceful means.

Zlenko repeated that Ukraine and New Zealand had initiated considering the Convention on Protection of UN Peacekeepers at the session of the UN General Assembly.

Zlenko on 'Special' Relationship With Russia

LD0908194394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1837 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Ukraine is ready to negotiate with Russia on signing the treaty on friendship and cooperation between the two countries, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko said in an interview with Interfax-Ukraine today.

Zlenko said that during the visit of Russian President Boris Yeltsin to Kiev (planned for September-early October, this year) mutually beneficial approaches to the issues concerning Russian-Ukrainian relations will be discussed. Zlenko said this will be reflected in the treaty on friendship and cooperation with Russia.

Zlenko said that relations between Ukraine and Russia are special. "These are relations of a special partnership since Russia is Ukraine's largest neighbor and shares with it a long single history, single humanitarian, cultural and other values," he added.

Zlenko said he believes that Ukraine is special for Russia as Russia is for Ukraine. "The positive moment consists right in this equality and strict respect of the rights and interests of both parties, Ukraine expects Russia to act in conformity with this," Zlenko said.

Commenting on relations between Ukraine and other CIS countries, Zlenko said, "Ukraine intends to take part in different CIS bodies in the future and it will defend its national interests more actively."

Russian Nuclear Fuel Supplies Lagging

LD0908144794 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1230 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Viktor Kovalenko for TASS]

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Text] Kiev, 9 Aug—Ukraine's difficulties obtaining nuclear fuel from Russia in exchange for warheads shipped out under the trilateral agreement between itself, the United States, and Russia were highlighted today in an interview given to UKRINFORM by Mykhaylo Umanets, chairman of the Ukrainian State Committee for the Use of Nuclear Energy.

He said Ukraine has received free of charge only one third of the required number of nuclear fuel cassettes. It is being forced to buy the rest from Russia for convertible currency. Russia is refusing to accept Ukrainian low-grade raw uranium, he added, because it has to undergo additional processing at Russian works.

The country's nuclear-fuel situation will improve in the next two years, he said. Russia will supply to us free of charge about 85 percent of the cassettes needed for nuclear power stations to operate normally.

Navy Urges Cooperation With Russian Counterparts

LD0908210594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1837 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] The military council of the Ukrainian Navy has urged Ukrainian sailors to strengthen friendship and mutual understanding with their Russian counterparts.

The appeal approved by the council on Tuesday voices satisfaction with the stabilization of the political relationship between the two countries after the Ukrainian elections.

The council believes that the Briz-94 exercises involving naval forces from several countries, including Ukraine and Russia, demonstrated the possibility of cooperation and interaction between fleets.

These relations can become a good tradition and a norm of behavior for sailors of the Black Sea Fleet and the Ukrainian Navy, the appeal says.

Still, the command reminded sailors of the existence of forces that are trying to provoke confrontation and mutual mistrust between Russia and Ukraine.

The message says the Ukrainian Navy rejects any actions that do not serve stronger friendship with Russia.

National Affairs

Kuchma's Decrees Restore 'Chain of Executive Command'

LD0908152794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1311 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Leonid Kuchma's decrees are designed to restore the chain of executive command from the president down, Pyotr Lelik, head of the presidential domestic policy service told Interfax-Ukraine Tuesday.

Lelik said that decrees aimed at increasing the role played by regions in state policy would be issued shortly. He added that the restoration of an executive pyramid had been initiated at grass roots level and supported by all regional council chairmen.

Lelik emphasized that the decrees were fully consistent with the Constitution under which the president is both the head of state and chief executive.

Decrees Designed To Balance Power

LD0908153094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1311 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] President Leonid Kuchma's decrees reforming the executive branch are designed to counter attempts at curbing presidential power, said Les Tanyuk, member of the Ukrainian parliament's Culture and Spiritual Values Commission and a leader of the Popular Rukh.

Tanyuk told Interfax-Ukraine that the decrees oppose the efforts by Oleksandr Moroz, parliament speaker, to strengthen the parliament's position vis-a-vis the government.

The Ukrainian parliament dominated by its Communist-Socialist majority is incapable of pulling the country out of the crisis, Tanyuk said. He expressed the hope that the consolidation of the Ukrainian president's authority would be beneficial to the country.

Parliament Not To Challenge Decrees

LD0908200794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1837 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] The Ukrainian parliament will not cancel President Leonid Kuchma's decrees on strengthening the chain of command in the executive branch, Dmitriy Tabachnik, the president's chief of staff, said.

He said at a briefing in Kiev that Prime Minister Vitaliy Masol and Supreme Soviet Chairman Aleksandr Moroz had prior knowledge of the decrees.

Tabachnik also said that no criticism of the decrees has come from Crimea. Under one of the decrees the chairman of the Sevastopol city council now reports to the president.

Tabachnik explained that the state power structure would be reformed in the framework of the constitutional process. He said that the president wants the executive branch to have more power during the transition period and economic reforms.

Commenting on Kuchma's remarks that Russian must be given the status of an official language, Tabachnik said that this could be done in the framework of a normal civilized process.

Officials Comment on Kuchma Decrees

LD0908202594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1837 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] The decrees passed by Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma on strengthening the executive power's

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

line of command, through which orders are passed down, were coordinated with Ukrainian Parliament Chairman Aleksandr Moroz, Deputy Chairman of the parliament Aleksandr Tkachenko told Interfax-Ukraine.

Tkachenko said that currently the executive and legislative authorities are in a "single vertical line since the parliament is making laws and controlling their implementation along the vertical line and the presidential executive power controls the government and thus performs its functions."

With two decrees publicized in Kiev today Kuchma assumed direct control over the cabinet of ministers and subordinated to himself the heads of regional administrations.

A member of the Commission on Defense and National Security, leader of the UNA-UNSO radical nationalist organization, Yaroslav Ilyasevich, approved of the presidential decrees on strengthening the executive power. He said in an interview with Interfax-Ukraine today that the president needs "means of influence" in order to ensure order in the country. At the same time, Ilyasevich said he is concerned over the fact that the present decrees contradict the legislation. He said the decrees could lead to confrontation between the two branches of power.

Deputy Chairman of the Commission on Foreign Affairs and Relations with the CIS Ivan Zayets (RUKh) told Interfax-Ukraine that he is in favor of eliminating the presidium of the Ukrainian cabinet of ministers. "The president must head the ministers directly," he added.

Commenting on subordination of the heads of the local administration to the president, Zayets said that the presidential decrees contain no provisions on Crimea. He added he believes it necessary to "clearly show what the powers of the Crimean authorities are and where they end."

Mayors' Association Leader Backs President

WS1008074494 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1000 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Report by Volodymyr Kravchenko and Yuriy Lukanov from the "Reviews, Commentaries, Outlooks" feature No. 32 (63), 7-13 Aug 94]

[Text] When the Association of Ukraine's City Councils of People's Deputies was established on 26 June 1992, it was proclaimed a voluntary public association of local government bodies, independent of the state administration, political parties, and movements. This organization did not declare any intention to interfere in politics. Instead, it determined its goal as consolidating local self-government and implementing the principles of decentralizing power and granting great autonomy to the democratically formed self-government bodies. The association currently comprises 49 mayors of cities which enjoy the status of oblast centers, and sees as its aim the transformation of Ukraine into a state with an efficient socially oriented market-type economy, a developed and well-balanced social infrastructure, and a high degree of social security for its citizens.

Recent events in Ukraine give no grounds to hope that this goal will be easy to achieve. The association's Kharkov conference held on 5-6 August confirmed the trend for the exacerbation of a political fight between the branches of power in Ukraine. Kharkov City Council Chairman Yevhen Kushnaryov, who was among the founders of the association, has been elected its president. This man is referred to as the ideologist of the development of local self- governments in Ukraine. His election as president of the association, as well as the adoption at the conference of an open letter to Supreme Council Chairman Oleksandr Moroz, testify to the resolution of its participants to influence the outcome of this fight. Participants in the conference, having discussed the draft law "on local councils of people's deputies," unanimously stated that the issue of Ukraine's state structure is currently at stake. Will Ukraine become a presidential-parliamentary republic (in which case a vertical structure should be formed running from the president to local councils and their chairmen); or a parliamentary-presidential one (in that case the clause of the draft should be enacted, stipulating a restoration of a single system of councils and their transformation from local self-government bodies into bodies of state power)?

Yevhen Kushnaryov has deemed the Supreme Council's activities as attempts to change Ukraine's current system of power by means of unconstitutional methods. In his opinion, the adoption of the law in the form suggested by the commission would produce a liquidation of the classic division of power, virtually remove the president from governing the state, and destroy local self-government as such. At the same time, this would strengthen the positions of the Supreme Council chairman who would, in fact, assume the functions of governing the state. What is characteristic of the situation is the fact that the parliamentary-presidential form of power is primarily advocated by deputies representing eastern and southern Ukraine, while lawmakers from central and western oblasts support the idea of a presidential-parliamentary republic. The spiciness of the situation lies in the fact that eastern and southern oblasts voted for Leonid Kuchma, who urges a strong presidency. It should also be pointed out that the law on local councils drafted by the former legislature, in accordance with which the councils were to have become self-government bodies, was rejected due to resistance on the part of left-wing deputies from Donetsk, Dnipropetrovsk, and Luhansk Oblasts. The fight is becoming more and more dramatic. Participants in the conference believe that Leonid Kuchma will never put up with merely representative functions. His is a different program, he received support from electors, however, one cannot say that eastern oblasts have chosen strong presidential power, given that the same electors voted for communist lawmakers who are known to have their own standpoint on this issue.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Leonid Kuchma has appealed to the Supreme Council to not hurry with the adoption of the law and is resolutely fighting against attempts to grant him token powers. He has met the leadership of the Interior Ministry and the Security Service, and there are rumors that preparations are under way to enact a law on vertical presidential power. Meanwhile, Oleksandr Moroz opposes the very name "Ukrainian parliament," claiming that he, unlike Supreme Council deputies, does not dream about an expansion of his powers.

On 19 July in Kiev, shortly before the Kharkov conference, a conference of chairmen of major councils was held, whose participants discussed the aforementioned draft. Both Moroz and Kuchma attended the conference and the latter pointed out: "Without a firm executive structure running from top to bottom, we will not achieve any progress. I am grateful to all the council chairmen, a majority of whom support this idea." The participants in that conference spoke in favor of the creation of a vertical executive structure subordinated to the president.

Thus, council heads did not support the first reading of the law. Meanwhile, 47 chairmen of oblast and city councils, speaking at the Supreme Council, demanded that a single vertical structure of state administration be formed and headed by the president. The alignment of forces in the legislature during the discussion of this issue is specific—the president may be backed by the "Reforms," "Center," "Unity," and Rukh factions, which, however, are a minority compared to the communists, socialists, and Peasant Party. In the opinion of Yevhen Kushnaryov, there are forces in this society which will not tolerate a restoration of the former system, thus, a conflict is ripening, threatening a social outburst. In fact, Ukraine is going to experience the Russian variant of a dramatic opposition between the two branches of power and the outcome of such opposition is hard to predict.

The open latter sent to Oleksandr Moroz by the participants in the Kharkov conference requests that the speaker exercise personal control over the preparation of the draft law, which would take into account the interests of both the state and local councils. Lvov City Council chairman referred to this as "a belief that the good father will come and restore order." Association members demanded that Yevhen Kusharyov be included in the working group for the drafting of the law, and voiced their intention to prepare an alternative draft. In general, city mayors count on the president's support.

Kuchma Aide Quits Over 'Nomenkatura' Influence

MK1008095094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 10 Aug 94 p 4

[Report by Yuriy Selivanov from Odessa under the "Standoff" rubric: "Former Human Rights Activist Quits the Game. Vladimir Malinkovich, Leonid Kuchma's Closest Election Campaign Aide, Leaves Presidential Team"]

[Text] Vladimir Malinkovich, in the past a well-known human rights activist, a member of the Ukrainian Helsinki Watch group, and later an observer on Radio Liberty and a political expert, played a far from secondary role in Leonid Kuchma's triumph, as the team member in charge of the ideology of his election campaign. However, soon after his patron's victory, Vladimir Malinkovich, who was tipped as a candidate for a high post in the new administration, categorically rejected an offer to head a presidential expert council, and departed from political activity.

He made this unexpected move following the first presidential edicts. "Particularly after Edicts No. 1 and No. 3," Mr. Malinkovich specified in a conversation with your SEGODNYA correspondent. "Edict No. 1, 'On Additional Measures To Step Up the Struggle Against Crime,' runs counter to the standards of human and individual rights. Article 4 of the edict, which allows suspects to be held in custody for up to 30 days, can give a boost to the arbitrary actions of law-enforcement agencies, which even formerly were not known for their respect for human rights. Article 5, which allows them to keep up to 50 percent of confiscated property, can directly prod the militia and judicial authorities toward arbitrary extortion. In effect, the document is a caricature copy of a similar edict by Yeltsin, a copy that does not take into account differences in the powers of the Russian and Ukrainian presidents." According to information available to Vladimir Malinkovich, neither the president nor his team had anything to do with the drafting of the edict; "the document was born deep inside the old nomenklatura, with the direct involvement of the Ukrainian Security Ministry."

Mr. Malinkovich also disagrees with Edict No. 3, "On Appointing KGB Lieutenant General Radchenko Internal Affairs Minister," because, in his words, this man, who has headed a corresponding desk at the KGB, is known for taking an active part in the suppression of the dissident movement in the 1970's. "At the time, I was a member of the Helsinki Watch group and I experienced the entire arsenal of his methods on my own back—from threats and the fabrication of provocative falsehoods to direct physical violence," the human rights activist stressed.

In Mr. Malinkovich's view, the president still lacks a new team as such, "and the old nomenklatura was swift to exploit that." Even before his election, during the election marathon, Leonid Kuchma's aide envisioned two possible scenarios: Either the government authorities will be substantially renewed, or the president will be dragged into nomenklatura games. "Today one can already state that Leonid Kuchma proved to have insufficient potential to move ahead according to the first scenario," Vladimir Malinkovich said. "If things continue to develop according to the second, nomenklatura scenario—which seems most probable at the moment—one could predict with certainty that all good intentions contained in the new president's program will remain on paper."

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

"Ukraine is currently run by MMM—Moroz, Masol, and Marchuk—while Kuchma himself has not yet left his mark on anything," Mr. Malinkovich thinks. In his opinion, there are virtually no people left in the current government elite capable of taking steps from the old to the new. Mr. Malinkovich thinks that the only way out of the impasse is to form a robust reform-minded team around the president, by attracting the best people, including from Russia and East Europe, where a certain experience of market reform has already been accumulated. "Leonid Kuchma does have a desire to rely on the new forces, but, it seems to me, he lacks the will or, possibly, political experience to do so. So far he remains for all of us 'a man in himself.' His true potential is still a question. God forbid that it should prove illusory," Vladimir Malinkovich concluded.

Anticrime Edicts, Radchenko Nomination Criticized

WS0908133994 Kiev VECHIRNIY KYYIV in Ukrainian 3 Aug 94 p 1

[Article by UNIAN correspondent Ihor Petruk: "Kuchma's First Edicts—Hit Crime or the President?"]

[Text] The target range and tone of the first edict issued by the new Ukrainian president were quite easy to predict, even though one would have liked to expect something different. Still, those on Bank Street decided not to tempt fate, and tradition prevailed.

In October 1992, the then-newly appointed Leonid Kuchma also began his term by sending threats to corrupt officials and the mafia. As is known, this had practically no effect on the latter, but the propaganda effect of such a decisive move proved so strong that it lingered throughout Kuchma's term as prime minister, and even made a considerable contribution to his victory in the presidential elections.

Let us make it clear right away: The president should expect no dividends from his first edict. And not only because Prime Minister Kuchma's words were later followed by specific deeds. (Remember the notorious case of oil reexports, followed by the dismissal of four or five Ukrainian oil refinery directors? All four were later reinstated, which also played into Kuchma's hands to some extent, winning for him the image of an honest man whose higher bosses prevented him from delivering the final blow to the mafia).

There is no use commenting on the edict "On Urgent Measures..." because of its complete transparency and eloquence. To the negative opinion about the edict (allowing for a 30-day detention on the grounds of the slightest suspicion), already expressed by several newspapers, one can only add a similar evaluation of a law demanding 50 percent of all confiscated money for "law-enforcement agencies and individuals engaged in the protection of public order." It is more than dangerous to let the militia and its "backers" provide for themselves in a country with 70-year-old traditions of denunciation. Also, it is obvious that this edict mimics a similar one issued by the Russian president.

It would be more interesting to find out what reasons prompted this outright haphazard document, which is not capable of performing even its principal function—to bring populism to the masses. First, this can be explained by certain personnel problems, which arose during the formation of a new administration, and the imperfection of the bureaucratic machine in general after the leadership change. Second, the new president's first steps provide so many arguments to his expected opponents in the Supreme Council and the Cabinet of Ministers that one should not write it off as a deliberate "gimmick." This option is also supported by Edict No. 3 confirming Lieutenant General Volodymyr Radchenko, former deputy chairman of the Ukrainian Security Service, as interior minister. Human rights activists from the 1970's and 1980's have tons of evidence against him. (By some accounts, Radchenko personally beat up activists and harassed their relatives. His former inmates include such prominent dissidents as Vladimir Malenkovich and Igor Pomerantsev. "The Chronicle of Current Events," a samizdat publication edited by Kronid Lubarskiy, repeatedly provided information on his struggle against "renegades").

The left-wing majority may not see criminal wrongdoing in the general's past, but its approval of this nomination would be only too clear a gesture underlying links of the present power with the one that once tried to build a bright future in Ukraine. The situation can, however, produce hefty profits. Using military terminology, one can say that Kuchma and his team exposed their flank to an offensive by those who oppose the idea of a vertical executive power structure, with the president at the top. Whether the Supreme Council's leadership takes advantage of this opportunity will be known on Tuesday, when the parliament will decide on Radchenko's future as interior minister.

Kuchma's Chances To Receive G-7 Aid Viewed

WS0908115794 Lvov POST-POSTUP in Ukrainian 21-27 Jul 94 p 1

[Report by Yaroslav Khobta: "What Will Kuchma Do With $4 Billion Promised to Kravchuk by the West"]

[Text] **A week ago, at the G-7 summit in Naples, Ukraine was offered $4 billion, of which Ukraine could receive $2 billion as technological assistance, while another $2 billion—as credit. It is pleasant to speculate about such sums, however, judging by our experience, it is too early to count the chickens before they hatch.**

First, the $4 billion was definitely meant for Kravchuk. However, Leonid Kuchma has become the president of Ukraine and his viewpoint on ways of Ukraine's development are evidently different. On the other hand,

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Kuchma will have a trump card if he manages to get hold of that money. It is easy to predict that he will do his best to accomplish this.

However, two reservations exist. The first is that Ukraine, in order to receive the first $2 billion, has to not only continue, but also step up privatization. Meanwhile, what privatization are we talking about, given that the Supreme Council has already managed to pass the draft resolution "on substantial improvement of the privatization mechanism and stepping up control over it." The draft stipulates that privatization, in fact, be suspended for three months, until the Cabinet of Ministers has been requested to develop a new methodology for evaluating property in line with world prices. This will hardly persuade the West that privatization in Ukraine is not paralyzed.

The other reservation concerns Kuchma's administrative methods. Holding the office of prime minister Leonid Kuchma displayed a special inclination toward granting various privileges to industrialists, especially those representing heavy industries and the military-industrial complex. If we do receive the other $2 billion, even God cannot guarantee that this money will not be wasted, not mentioning the fact that this sum will have to be paid back.

Still another nuance of Ukraine's situation is the problem of payments for Russian power supplies. Ukraine has a $1 billion debt to Russia, and it is still unclear how we will settle the account for Russian oil and gas. The issuance by the West of the credit to potentially bankrupt Ukraine seems illogical from an economic viewpoint.

There is another undesirable scenario. Being Ukraine's prime minister Kuchma used to have "good personal relations with the Russian premier" and that is why Ukraine did not experience problems with Russian power supplies. However, the scheme of settlements seemed equally perplexing. For some reason nobody seems willing to recall that Kuchma and Chernomyrdin signed an agreement a year ago, stipulating that Russia would become the owner of 51 percent of the shares of Ukraine's largest Lisichansk refinery. It would be very sad if we continue to dispose of our property to pay back debts and G-7's credits.

It would be equally sad to think that the West's offer may be the last one. Of course, if we waste the $4 billion, the West will never again offer us anything. Yet, we have to receive this sum first.

Moroz Assesses Parliament's First Session

WS0908134394 Kiev KYYIVSKA PRAVDA in Ukrainian 5 Aug 94 p 1

[Report by Yu. Lystopad: "Life Is Complicated When Everybody in the Supreme Council Is 'Relatively Left' or 'Relatively Right'"]

[Text] Oleksandr Moroz has quite highly assessed the legislature's work at the first session, ranking it higher than that of the former Supreme Council, despite the fact that the latter had managed to pass at its first session the Declaration on National Sovereignty, the law on economic independence of Ukraine, and had started virtually from scratch. This conclusion can be drawn from the speaker's recent news conference.

How did the man in the street feel during the two and a half months of the parliament's activities? Where is the improvement of the tax system and currency regulations, the determination of the poverty margin, and the correction of the budget promised before the elections by all the contestants for legislative seats? The first session did not get down to discussing those issues.

Answering reporters' questions on these topics, Oleksandr Moroz said that the parliament is not lagging behind; it had no right "to select one out of all the processes and make a law out of it."

The legislative head believes that the resolution suspending privatization for six weeks should not be treated literally. According to Moroz, "we are speaking of putting privatization processes in order and not discontinuing them."

The well-known statement by Kuchma, Moroz, and Masol on accord and constructive work gave certain reporters grounds to speak of an ambiguity in the executive branch, and to describe the alignment of forces in high spheres as "the legislative branch plus two executive branches." Oleksandr Moroz countered this statement by saying that "this is not an acute problem if all the branches are headed by wise people." At the same time, he believes that the process of forming the Constitutional Court should be stepped up (this issue has been included on the agenda of the second session). The speaker is "not against Leonid Yuzkov and the four Constitutional Court members elected by the previous legislature retaining their posts."

Answering a KYYIVSKA PRAVDA question about dual citizenship in Crimea, Moroz said that he considers dual citizenship out of the question. Asked to explain why Ukraine is losing even those small accomplishments it managed to obtain in the negotiation process on the division of the Black Sea Fleet, while all other independent states are trying to get rid of foreign troops stationing on their territories, Oleksandr Moroz repeated his well-known postulate: "The Black Sea Fleet is a combat entity operating in the zone of Russia's and Ukraine's common interests." That is why he believes it "efficient to use the Fleet under joint command."

The productivity of the first session, as reported by the Supreme Council chairman, is as follows: 22 laws and more than 100 resolutions have been passed. According to Moroz, three factors have had an effect on the deputies' work: The complicated situation in the state, the fact that many seats remain unmanned, as well as the

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

legislature being a reflection of the inexplicit political structure of society. Oleksandr Moroz believes that there are "relatively left, relatively right, and relatively centrist forces in the Supreme Council" and complained about "difficulty in organizing work under such conditions." He then added that "instead of bargaining, the Supreme Council's managing bodies should have been formed as soon as possible."

The speaker joked about a monetary reform to be carried out in Ukraine "in the historically near future." He also said that he had visited wounded People's Deputy Bortnyk in a Vienna hospital, and that the latter is going to return home and take part in the second session.

Prospects for 'Reforms' Factions New Party

WS0908134294 Kiev KIYEVSKIYE VEDOMOSTI in Russian 4 Aug 94 p 3

[Article by Oles Doniy: "Holovatyy, Pynzenyk, Shyshkyn, and Lanovyy Intend To Create Something Political and Serious"]

[Text] A quiet and calm seminar for newly elected deputies of local councils, which was held in Feofaniya by the "Democratic Initiatives" research and education center and the (U.S.) National Democratic Institute on 29-31 July, was concluded by a sensational event—the announcement of a new political force with an entire constellation of prominent political stars in its leadership. The initiators of this force were the "Reforms" faction deputies who, regardless of their small number, constitute the most productive faction in the Supreme Council. The birth of the new political organization is being supported by respected politicians Holovatyy, Pynzenyk, and Shyshkyn. The nucleus of this organization will become the "Reforms" faction, which will be based on corresponding deputy groups in local councils. The Halychyna region, where local factions with the same names have already been created, was cited as an example for the structure.

The creation of this political association is supported by serious arguments. First, the all-Ukrainian character of this association—the "Reforms" faction, unlike other legislative factions, can claim support from absolutely all regions of the country. Second, a clear and firm market position—"the economy should not be controlled by ideology." Third, its membership—these are young (25-45 years old), unencumbered, and promising politicians (also including, in addition to the aforementioned personalities, Lanovyy) who are distinctive for their competence and higher level of political culture.

Nonetheless, prospects for the new organizations are clouded and ambiguous. There is no single concept for the form of the new association among its initiators.

While Serhiy Holovatyy diplomatically called the new association a "political organization," "Democratic Initiatives" Director Serhiy Odarych was more specific: "Our goal is to create a party." If this opinion does not prevail, the organization will resemble, with painful accuracy, the unseasonably withered "New Ukraine," an association of "star" politicians completely cut off from local-level support.

Even at best, when this new "something" consolidates itself and forms a structure, the problem of a social base will remain. All national democrats are competing for the votes of the same electorate, therefore the appearance of a new party among them will only intensify the competition and harden the political struggle in potentially democratic regions.

From a strategic point of view, Ukraine's most urgent task is to draw its western and southern oblasts into the orbit of all-Ukrainian politics. However, as the legislative elections testified, voters in these regions prefer ephemeral social guarantees to liberal promises. Obviously, the social democratic idea may be more prospective to the southern and—especially—eastern regions.

The creation of a new political force may result in a difficult situation in the People's Rukh of Ukraine. The defection of the entire "Democratic Initiatives" team—headed by Odarych, one of Ukraine's few qualified experts in the area of conducting election campaigns—from Rukh to the new structure will push Rukh to the brink of a new crisis. Odarych, in addition, was one of the Rukh leaders who promoted Chornovil to leading posts and contributed to the transformation of this sociopolitical organization into a party.

Time will tell whether this announcement in Feofaniya will give birth to a powerful political force or turn into nothing more than a blank shot. In any case, this event does not go beyond the general context of political life in Ukraine. The alliance of the Ukrainian Republican Party with Ukraine's Democratic Party; the talks on a unification of the Party of Democratic Revival of Ukraine, the Labor Congress, the Social Democratic Party of Ukraine, and the Party of Justice; the attempt on the part of Hrynyov to build a party on the basis of the Interregional Bloc of Reforms; and this new "party of 'Reforms'"—all these testify to the fact that the process of fermentation in the sphere of political beau monde leads to the creation of new forms of political life.

'Reforms' Faction Criticizes Supreme Council

WS1008140094 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 5 Aug 94 p 3

["Statement" issued by the "Reforms" deputy faction in the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet; place and date not given]

[Text] Having analyzed the activity of Ukraine's newly elected Supreme Council during its first session (May-July 1994), the "Reforms" deputy faction expresses its anxiety over a long list of negative and destructive tendencies which have appeared during this stage of securing a legislative basis for the building of Ukraine's democratic statehood and the resolution of urgent social problems.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

First: Ukraine's Supreme Council has not yet become a full-fledged democratic parliament, both from the point of view of its representativeness and its internal structure as a democratic legislative body.

The left-wing majority (communists, socialists, and agrarians) has taken advantage of the incompleteness of the legislative body to accomplish their political goals, which do not suit the objective demands of current development in Ukrainian society. The left-wing legislative majority has launched an active fight to usurp power in Ukraine, which was corroborated by the appointment of a new prime minister just a few days before the presidential elections. The Supreme Council legislative policy is under the dictate of the left-wing majority, which tends to totally revise those acts adopted by the former Supreme Council. The bureaucratic system of command over the Supreme Council has been restored through the Presidium, a vestige of the communist system, at the expense of the organizational role of deputy factions and groups.

Violations of the principles of civic responsibility, deputy ethics, professionalism, and positive statehood building could be seen within the walls of the legislature during the confirmation of newly elected deputies in parliament, the nomination and election of the head and deputy heads of the Supreme Council, the setting up of the Presidium and commissions, and the preparation and debate of procedures for Supreme Council work.

The organization, preparation, and holding of session debates were characterized by disregard for alternative opinions and proposals, violations of constitutional rights of people's deputies, and great pressure on the part of the Supreme Council chairman and deputy chairmen. Unfortunately, as early as the second day after his "speech from the throne," [Supreme Soviet Chairman] O. Moroz violated his promise to the deputies that no constructive idea would be ignored. On the contrary, everything possible is being done to celebrate incompetence and dogmatism, as well as to belittle the professional and intellectual potential of the current Supreme Council.

Second: The results of the first session lead one to conclude that there is no clear concept of legislative activity in Ukraine. There is no pivot which, while supported in the existing legislation achievements, could direct future work and ensure the unity of people's deputies' actions.

Such a pivot could be found in Ukraine's new Constitution, but the drafting of the Constitution has actually been blocked. There is no support for an initiative to work out a single program, common for all branches of power, for building statehood and reforming civic relations.

At the same time, the left-wing majority in parliament has already succeeded in its attempt to turn state policy in the opposite direction.

Thus, the adoption of the law on local councils of people's deputies on its first reading was an attempt to destroy offshoots of democratic local self-government in Ukraine. This not only contradicts the charter on the local self-government of the Council of Europe, of which Ukraine desires to become a member, but also destroys the processes of decentralizing and democratizing the administration, without which we will not create effective mechanisms for overcoming the current economic and political crisis.

Furthermore, one can see attempts in the Supreme Council to purposefully restore the Soviet form of totalitarian rule. Thus, parliamentary leaders pursue a policy of canceling the autonomy of the government and certain executive structures. An intent was also announced to restrict presidential powers and, perhaps, to abolish the post of president, determined in nationwide elections, by depriving the president of the possibility to form and head the state's executive branch.

Actually, the point lies in the ending of division between legislative and executive branches, as well as the introduction of soviets' monopoly throughout the system of power, under which the people lose their direct control over authorities.

Third: A certain anxiety is provoked by the fact that the current Supreme Council actually ignores the need for overcoming the economic crisis, resolving financial problems, and raising living standards.

It has not been realized that a way out of the current crisis is possible only on the path of market reforms, the overcoming of economical self-isolation, and the transformation of state enterprises by granting them a wide range of economic rights and freedoms. Attempts are being made to halt the privatization of enterprises and land, sluggish as it is. There are efforts to exclude wide segments of Ukraine's population from this process. The parliamentary leadership places obstacles on the path of stabilizing the monetary system and liquidating monopoly and profiteering mechanisms in credit-and-bank and currency-and-trade sectors. Support is being given to political forces which fracture Ukraine's financial system and actually pose a threat to Ukraine's external independence. Recent developments in parliament testify to the fact that legislative policy will not promote the extension of Ukraine's consumption and housing funds, a just distribution of profits in society, and the repayment of state debts to the population due to bank savings, obligations, and insurances.

The lack of responsibility on the part of the Supreme Council leadership has also manifested itself during the forming of the new Cabinet of Ministers. The prime minister was appointed without preliminary examination of his program of activities, which is a violation of appropriate constitutional norms. As a result, there is no integrated program of economic development. What is more, there are attempts to steer the country into a

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

plan-and-distribution bureaucratic system and administrative compulsion instead of economic stimulation. The parliament and government leadership does not understand the need for diverse and varied reforms, not only in Ukraine's economic system, but also in the system of state administration, including structures and functions of the Cabinet of Ministers, ministries and other state executive bodies which have already testified in the past to the futility of their administration functions.

Fourth: Negative trends, which were seen in the work of the highest legislative body, will influence in the most burdensome way not only the activity of the Supreme Council itself, but also the entire system of state power in Ukraine.

The inefficient and chaotic work of parliament and the contradictory legislative policy are only able to aggravate the political and state crisis and lead to the early dismissal of the executive branch as the main provoker of such a crisis. At the same time, the weakening of state authority and the futility of internal policy make it impossible to implement system reforms, overcome the acute economic crisis, or resolve urgent social problems. Eventually, this may become a trigger for social and political conflicts and pose a threat to the shaky internal peace of our society.

[Signed] S. Holovatyy, V. Lanovyy, H. Omelchenko, V. Pynzenyk, S. Sobolyev, members of the "Reforms" deputy group council.

Leaders Warn of Difficulties in Fall, Winter

MM1008075994 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Aug 94 p 3

[Report by Anatoliy Polyakov: "We Fought the Common Enemy Together, We Must Mark the 50th Anniversary of Victory Together"]

[Text] Kiev—This is what Ukrainian Parliament Speaker Oleksandr Moroz believes, and he is proposing that Ukrainian representatives be included as participants in the Victory Parade in Moscow.

Ukrainian leaders have "gone to the people" following the presidential and parliamentary election campaigns. Leonid Kuchma, Oleksandr Moroz, and Vitaliy Masol are moving from region to region, meeting with local leaders, workers, and collective farm workers, trying to obtain a clear picture of the state of the economy and to plan ways of getting out of the crisis. Nobody is promising a bright future soon; on the contrary, it is believed that the coming fall and winter will be most difficult. Kuchma, meeting with missilemen in Pervomaysk, Nikolayev Oblast, said bluntly about the proposed price increases: "Do not wait for them, brace yourselves." He stressed that it could not be otherwise, since 50 percent of industry is currently idle. Curiously, he commented on dual citizenship: "If it is acquired by the 11 million Russians living in Ukraine, who exactly is going to serve in the Ukrainian Army?"

The main common denominator of speeches by all Ukrainian leaders is the desire to move closer toward Russia, to lift customs and border barriers, and to restore the criminally destroyed economic relations.

Addressing veterans in Kiev, Moroz agreed that currently concern for them in Ukraine exists only on paper. Ukrainian pensioners' purchasing power is between one-third and one-fifth that of Russians. Ukrainian Army officers receive the same proportion less than their colleagues. In 1993 12,000 officers were discharged from the Ukrainian Armed Forces at their own request. Four thousand of them were young officers. The manpower shortfall currently totals 10,000 senior officers and 5,000 officers at platoon and company level. Moroz gave his assurance that he would try to achieve full implementation of the Law on the Status of Veterans. As regards the upcoming celebration of the 50th anniversary of victory, he said that CIS veterans must mark it together. When in Moscow recently, he proposed that representatives be sent from Ukraine to participate in the Victory Parade.

When in Krivoy Rog, Masol stressed the need to increase not the output but the sale of goods and foodstuffs.

But let us not create the impression that all three are united in their thoughts and actions. The conflicts concerning the powers of the legislative and executive branches remain unresolved. Kuchma said in Lutsk that Ukraine cannot now be governed by a collective organ. As if these differences between him and Moroz have not hindered fruitful work. Meanwhile the authorities, implementing the Ukrainian president's edict on combating crime, are clearing streets and squares of kiosks and of the contraband goods in them. This immediately prompted price rises for tobacco products and wines and spirits, which once again hits the ordinary man's pocket.

Nuclear Power Stations Not Ready for Winter

LD0908155094 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1130 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Kiev [no date as received]—At a news conference today, Mykhaylo Umanets, chairman of the Ukrainian Committee for the Use of Nuclear Power explained about the results of a familiarization tour 2-6 August of nuclear power stations by a government delegation headed by Deputy Prime Minister Valeriy Shmarov with the participation of experts from the Cabinet of Ministers, the Ministry of the Economy, and the Ministry of Finances.

Mykhaylo Umanets noted that the aim of the tour was to inspect the readiness of facilities for the winter period and the state of the uncompleted generating sets (the 6th set at Zaporozhye AES, the 2d set at Khmelnitskiy AES, and the 4th set at Rovno AES). Mykhaylo Umanets said that the facilities are not ready for the winter period. Through the fault of the staff, the first generating set at the Zaporozhye AES has been undergoing repair work for more than 40 days and the third set at this station

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

caught fire during high voltage tests, as a result of which it is expected that it will remain idle for longer than the expected term (10-15 days).

With regard to the uncompleted generating sets, the chairman of Ukraine's Derzhkomatom gave assurances that the sixth set at the Zaporozhye AES can be commissioned this year and the second set at Khmelnitsky and the fourth set at the Rovno AES can be commissioned by 1996 on condition that there is normal financing. A total of $600 million is required to complete the construction of these three sets. However, in Mykhaylo Umanets' words: "Ukraine could lose $4.5 billion which have already been invested in the construction unless the government allocates these funds."

In his view, the main problem of the nuclear power workers is the absence of normal financing. "Since 1 February we have been working almost without pay. In order to solve the problem it is necessary to increase tariffs for electric power (from 200 karbovantsi per kWh to 700 per kWh) and to return to a system of Russian technical credits."

In an exclusive interview with a UNIAN correspondent, Mykola Oberkovych [name as received], chairman of Derzhkomatom's public relations directorate, said that at present the Ukrainian nuclear department and the U.S. firm "Duke Power" are working on creating a dry system for storing nuclear fuel. According to previous calculations, this project will cost about $12 million.

Nuclear Power Expansion Program Planned

LD1008112394 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 2100 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Speaking at a news conference in Kiev on 9 August, Mikhaylo Umanets, chairman of the state committee for nuclear power utilization, who returned from an inspection tour of Ukrainian nuclear power plants, said the inspection made it quite clear that the currently approved national program of expanding the nuclear power industry's capability through commissioning additional power generating units at the Khmelnitskiy, Rovno, and Zaporozhye nuclear power plants would materialize in 1995 and 1996. As much as 4.5 billion U.S. dollars have already been invested in the expansion program, which is to supposed to require 600 million U.S. dollars to complete it.

Touching on the crucial issue of fissionable fuel for Ukrainian nukes [as heard], Mr. Umanets said the committee intended to hold an international tender this fall for an optional project with a view of starting domestic manufacture of fissionable fuels zirconium and magnium 235 at the eastern mining dressing factory in (?Zhovtnevody), Dneprodzerzhinsk-based Transdnestrian chemical factory, and the Nikopol-based southern piping factory. According to Mr. Umanets, the trilateral statement involving Ukraine, Russia, and the United States has been kept by the parties, with Russia supplying fissionable fuel to Ukraine in exchange for the latter's dismantled ICBM warheads. As Mr. Umanets disclosed, Russian supplies over the next years will be enough to meet 85 percent of Ukraine's requirements.

Government Plans To Make Own Nuclear Fuel

LD0908151194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1235 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Viktor Kovalenko for TASS]

[Text] Kiev, 9 Aug (ITAR-TASS)—Ukraine is planning to produce fuel for its nuclear power stations, Mykhaylo Umanets, chairman of the State Committee for the Use of Nuclear Power, told a media briefing today.

Kiev will offer for tender, probably this fall, projects to make nuclear fuel in Ukraine, he said. Foreign companies will be allowed to bid.

Ukraine already makes zirconium for the rods that hold the Uranium-235 pellets used in reactors.

The production of reactor cassette components is planned at the Vostochnyy mining and enrichment plant in Zheltyye Vody, the Pridneprovskiy chemical works in Dneprodzerhinsk, and the Yuzhnotrubnyy factory in Nikopol.

Kiev's To Remain 'Patient' Towards Crimea

LD0908200194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1929 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Ukraine will be consistent in following its line for a political settlement to the Crimea issue, Borys Oliynyk, chairman of the Ukrainian parliament Commission for International Affairs and Relations with the Commonwealth of Independent States, said on Tuesday.

At a meeting in Kiev with Conrad Hubert and Bruce Allen, envoys of the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), Oliynyk said that relations between Ukraine and Crimea were based on the Ukrainian parliament's "traditional patience and tolerance" and that he was sure this would continue to be the case in the future.

"But there is a line no one should be allowed to cross," Oliynyk added. "If the process of breaking away starts within a state, it will have to defend itself using every constitutional means." "No state would allow two presidents on its territory," he said.

Moving to Ukraine's relations with Russia, Oliynyk said there were those interested in fanning tension in the runup to Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit to Ukraine, in the course of which the two countries are due to sign a comprehensive treaty on friendship and cooperation.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

"In my view, it is not in Russia's interest to involve itself in the Crimea problem. It is the internal problem of Ukraine, and Ukraine has made this clear," Oliynyk said.

Crimean Parliament Hits Law Enforcement Failures

MK0908102094 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 9 Aug 94 p 15

[Report by Pavel Lomakin: "Crimea Parliament on Combating Crime. Army Generals Unable To Tackle Crime"]

[Text] The Crimea Supreme Soviet session discussed yesterday the question of "measures to fight crime in the republic." The high-level discussion of this problem was necessitated by the assassinations of politicians that have occurred in the peninsula in the past two weeks. Internal Affairs Minister Valeriy Kuznetsov and Security Service chief Valeriy Lepikhov delivered reports on measures taken to combat crime; both men are former army generals appointed to the posts by Crimea President Yuriy Meshkov.

To all appearances, the deputies were concerned at the fact that neither murder has so far been investigated. The victims' (Yevgeniy Podaneyev and Mikhail Korchelava) connections with criminal groups have not been proved, either. The deputies also fear that a new war between gangs for the redistribution of spheres of influence might break out in Crimea following the penetration of the Moscow-Kazan group into the peninsula.

However, speakers from among representatives of the power ministries did not cite any operational data on the investigations into the murders or the crime situation in the peninsula. In the deputies' view, Kuznetsov and Lepikhov got the news they told the session out of the Crimean newspapers. Valeriy Kuznetsov candidly conceded that law-enforcement agencies cannot hold out in the struggle again organized crime. Some deputies and representatives of the Crimea executive authority blame the former Ukrainian leadership for the collapse of law-enforcement agencies and the loss of control over the situation. Criticism was leveled at the representatives of the power agencies who addressed the session. It was recommended that they mind their professional business, not politics.

The chiefs of the Crimea Prosecutor's Office, the Supreme Soviet, and the Justice Ministry, who mounted the rostrum after Lepikhov and Kuznetsov, were preoccupied primarily with passing the buck and did not even try to uncover the real reasons for the breakup of the law-enforcement system. As a result, the deputies did not decide anything and postponed the discussion.

Some deputies said that the discussion was attended by representatives of Ukraine's power ministries. They were not given the floor, however, to expand on measures taken to stabilize the crime situation in Crimea. Nonetheless, in the view of many Crimea deputies, it is cooperation with the Ukrainian law-enforcement agencies that should help achieve success in the struggle against crime.

Crimean Economic Data Reported

LD0908165394 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1415 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Summary] Simferopol, 9 August—Crimea's state statistical committee has published statistical data for the first six months of 1994. In industry, 140 enterprises belong to the non-state sector. This is 34.8 percent of the volume of production amounting to 1.9888 trillion karbovantsi. Eighty one enterprises work on a leasehold basis.

There are 1,063 private farms in Crimea that have at their disposal 14.700 ha of agricultural land which includes 10,800 ha of arable land.

At present, 888 shops and 497 catering enterprises work on a leasehold basis. As of 1 July 1994, 300 retail trade and nine catering outlets work on a private ownership basis.

With regard to privatization, 35,200 apartments and houses have been privatized.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Belarus

President Pins Hopes for Security on Russia

LD1008142494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1313 GMT 10 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Minsk August 10 TASS—"Who are we to ensure our security with? My answer is—Russia. Our economy and our army are most closely linked with Russia," Belarus President Alyaksandr Lukashenka told ITAR-TASS today. He added that "many Belarus enterprises were part and parcel of the common military-industrial complex and are tightly 'linked with Russia'. What is more, they manufacture goods of world quality standard which are supplied both to the Belarus and the Russian armies. There is a double link between the Belarus and Russian Armed Forces: The Belarus Army cannot be ensured with everything it needs without close economic ties with Russia. There are also some purely military aspects, too. I do not intend to spoil the good relations existing between our two armies."

"We have agreed to conclude a treaty of friendship and good-neighbourly relations," Lukashenka stated. "it is strange that no such agreement was signed so far. We have completed the formulation of all the articles of the treaty to merge our monetary systems. But we have to catch up at least a bit with Russia in order to carry out this unification."

The Belarus president stressed that he attached priority importance to the republic's relations with Russia. "Moscow is not trying to dictate the pace of the rapprochement between our two states," he added. "There is no sign of any diktat in our relations. On the contrary, I was somewhat surprised during the negotiations by the understanding, tact and even, I may say, emotion with which the Russian leadership treated Belarus and its new leadership."

Speaking about his view on the problems of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), the president said: "Today it is our duty to safeguard the slightest form of unity left among the states of the former union. The CIS is the only thing left and the only thing that holds us together to a certain extent. This is why we must strengthen and expand the Commonwealth. And I shall do everything in my power to help raise the extent of the Commonwealth's integrity to an increasingly higher level."

Lukashenka Decrees Takeover of Government Property

LD0908200394 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1837 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka decreed the takeover of the property and buildings that until now belonged to the government, parliament and the Supreme and Constitutional Courts.

Their buildings, hotels, repair and construction enterprises, hospitals, clinics, garages, printing presses and three nature reserves, notably the famous Belovezhskaya Pushcha, will be taken over by the president's chief of staff.

Ivan Titenkov, MP, who was active in Lukashenka's presidential campaign, has been appointed chief of staff.

Most members of the Supreme Soviet's presidium, which met Monday night, regarded this action as unlawful. They believe that Lukashenka's decree contravenes Article 6 of the Constitution on the division of powers.

Mechyslaw Hryb, chairman of parliament, said the decree had come as a surprise to him.

Hryb briefed Lukashenka over the telephone about the Supreme Soviet presidium's meeting. Lukashenka did not rule out the possibility that he could call off certain parts of his decree.

Further Government Appointments Announced

LD0908180094 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 0400 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Yesterday, the President of Belarus Alyaksandr Lukashenka signed decrees on new appointments. Viktar Sheyman has been appointed secretary of state of the Council of Security and Mikalay Rumas acting minister for finance of the republic.

Prime Minister Outlines Primary Goals

WS0908120094 Minsk RESPUBLIKA in Russian 2 Aug 94 pp 1,2

[Interview with Belarusian Prime Minister Mikhail Chyhir by Grigoriy Kisel, MOGILEVSKIYE VEDOMOSTI editor in chief; place and date not given: "Mikhail Chyhir: 'Living Standards Depend Not Only on the Republic's Leadership, But Also on the People"]

[Excerpts] **Today's MOGILEVSKIYE VEDOMOSTI has published an exclusive interview with Belarusian Prime Minister Mikhail Chyhir. By courtesy of the paper's chief editor Grigoriy Kisel, who spoke with the prime minister, this interview is being simultaneously run by RESPUBLIKA. The conversation with the prime minister took place on 29 July and lasted 45 minutes. The editorial board is grateful to Mikhail Mikalayevich Chyhir for providing, as the saying goes, first-hand information.**

[Kisel] Was it a surprise to you that you became prime minister? Did you have doubts that you would not be able to cope with this task? In general, did you think about the

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

psychological compatibility of such different—even in terms of outward appearances—people as Lukashenka and Chyhir?

[Chyhir] Yes, this proposal was completely unexpected. As for doubts, every normal man should have them. Before my nomination, I had a long conversation with the president regarding our economic situation and measures to lead us out of the crisis. Figuring that my views had not been rejected by the president, and that our views on many things had been concurrent, I deemed it possible to accept the office of prime minister.

Regarding psychological compatibility, the president's outward impulsiveness and my outward composure are not internal features of our characters. If I try to be calm on the outside, it does not mean that I do not experience internal outbursts. In general, I understand that having assumed this post, one should entirely subordinate himself to the cause, to make useful decisions, even if they do not conform to one's internal temperament.

I have not known Lukashenka for a long time, even though we met several times before the elections and during the election campaign. I understand that many things in our views bring us closer together, and this is perhaps the most important thing. Of course, there cannot be full compatibility. We are not robots, but people. Nevertheless, our current relations allow me to hope that we will try to improve the situation in our country, in a business-like and calm atmosphere.

[Kisel] Did you make any conditions on the president, the fulfillment of which was necessary for you to agree to become leader of the government? If you did, what conditions did you make, and if you did not, why?

[Chyhir] Of course, I did. The first condition was a market-driven path of economic development. Second—decisive action aimed at restoring order, including the pricing policy. Third—the budget. The budget cannot be drawn out of thin air, it cannot depend on a political juncture. If it is not a balanced budget, it should only entail a 4- or 5-percent deficit. Otherwise, we will simply have a financial collapse. [passage omitted]

[Kisel] The president has been criticized for ushering Myasnikovich and Linh—members of Kebich's team—into the new government. Was the president interested in your opinion in this regard, or did he simply present you with an established fact? If the latter scenario was the case, does it not mean that your aforementioned deputies will try to get closer to the president? At the same time, you can simply become an executor of the president's will.

[Chyhir] Before I was offered the office of prime minister, the president had consulted me on candidacies for government members. Working at the Agrobank, due to my official duties, I would often meet with Myasnikovich and Linh, who were dealing with economic problems in the former government. When I still did not know, and the president perhaps did not think about it, that I would be asked to head the government, I proposed Alyaksandr Ryhoravich to attract Myasnikovich and Linh to work in the new Cabinet of Ministers. The president emphasized that he was very pleased that our views on personnel arrangements were similar. As you can see, I was not given an established fact, and thus, there cannot be talk about any political or court intrigues.

[Kisel] At the beginning of this year, Kebich conducted minor reshuffles within the government. Nevertheless, it was already obvious that this was a cosmetic repair, that it did not pursue global goals. Will you fundamentally change the structure of government, which would meet the requirements of current times and not the needs of officials? If you will, will this be a revolutionary step, or will Kebich's supporters be replaced with supporters of Lukashenka or Chyhir?

[Chyhir] I would like to start from the last part of your question. While forming our cadres, we judge their qualities, knowledge, experience, and ability to create, search, and implement assigned tasks. My previous answer indicated that we do not divide people between someone's supporters or foes. Myasnikovich and Linh are from Kebich's team, Hanchar—from Lukashenka's team, in terms of structure. Regarding the government structure, yes, there will be fundamental changes. First of all, the number of ministries will be reduced. There have been 36 in the past, and our plan for reorganization envisions only 24. I would not like to prematurely speak of specific ministries, because the new structure has yet to be finally approved. Moreover, and this is very important, we have attempted to organize work so that ministries would act as extensions of the government, not as departments or advocates of enterprises and organizations. In this regard, we have decided to abandon branch structures in the Cabinet of Ministers. In this way, we want to achieve the primary goal—to vertically reduce governmental links, so that government decisions can reach executors and each specific industry more quickly. Government leaders intend to more efficiently influence all spheres of life through new methods and new people, whose number in the government will be reduced.

[Kisel] Could you name three primary goals that must be achieved to stabilize the situation? Our readers, however, would like to learn not only about these goals, but also about ways and methods of achieving them.

[Chyhir] I believe that the most painful problem, which has upset our economy, is the pricing policy. First, we will not interest producers in increasing the volume of production, if we do not take into account all expenditures connected with the release of production. This is the reason behind the current decline in production. Second, in a situation when our prices—particularly those on foodstuffs—are the lowest in all countries bordering Belarus; everything is being taken away from our country. Let us consider the following: Not only

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

products are being taken away, but also the Belarusian budget, which is used to subsidize those products. As a matter of fact, the economy cannot survive for a long time in such a situation. I will repeat, the first thing the government will try to do will be to conduct a pricing policy, which would be useful, not harmful to the economy. Of course, there immediately arises the problem of social protection of society. This is a complex mechanism; not everything is so simple. Thus, I would like to state that until a mechanism for targeted protection of poor segments of society is worked out, we will not make fundamental decisions regarding pricing policies.

Our second task is to restore production. By the way, this will be one of the main topics of the upcoming meeting between the Belarusian and Russian presidents. We should restore economic ties in areas where it is possible and expedient. In areas where it would not make sense to do so, it is necessary to change the profile of production. Yes, this is a difficult and capital-intensive process, but there is no other way.

The third point, though perhaps it should be considered the first and most important point, is the mentality of our people and the loss of human values that has taken place over the last few years. In this area, by the way, many things depend on the media. Incredible efforts are needed to return to the education and reeducation of a civilized man for civilized society. Without discipline, activeness, patriotism, we will not resolve many problems of our country. If we only live for today and instill the psychology of easy bread; our nation will never become rich, in terms of either economy or morality. We must set honest labor on a pedestal.

[Kisel] There are different ways to conduct economic reforms. One of them is so-called shock therapy. Will you have enough decisiveness to achieve your goal, if you have to proceed to the better through the worse, meaning through a temporary deterioration of living standards, unemployment, etc.? Do you adhere to the principle that the end justifies the means?

[Chyhir] Although I am not a supporter of shock therapy, there should be decisive actions. Yes, a sort of temporary deterioration of living standards is possible. But you must understand that we are already in a situation that if we apply additional shock therapy methods, the people will hardly withstand it. We want to gradually, though very decisively, return everything in our economy to its place, to achieve the desired effect—stabilization of the situation. Thus, the people should not be afraid of some cataclysms or unconsidered experiments.

[Kisel] Our leadership's face is currently turned toward the East. Still, many things have already been said about this, about our relations with Russia, including by the president. Principally, everything here is clear. At the same time, we complain that the West is not waiting for us, and that we are simply denied access to Western markets. I think, however, that we have not yet tried to penetrate there. Do you not predict developments which will force Belarus to look to the West for its rescue?

[Chyhir] We cannot survive without the East. I am absolutely convinced of this. Our current relations with Russia will develop, though perhaps on a different basis. I do not see the possibility that we will look for our rescue in the West. Historically, the Belarusian and Russian peoples have lived together for so long that it is hard to imagine a complete split. We work together and we will continue to do so. I am convinced of this. Regarding the West, I believe that we should not abandon the idea of conquering Western markets. This will be hard to achieve, since there is demand for high-quality and cheap products in the West. To believe that we can find our rescue in the West is simply unrealistic. Nevertheless, we should develop our relations with the West. So, although we must work on two fronts, our main front is in the East, where our raw materials and energy sources are situated.

[Kisel] You must agree that economic programs of the Belarusian Popular Front and other movements and parties contain many valuable things that could benefit the Belarusian people. Will the new government, unlike the former one, accumulate all valuable ideas, no matter from which ideological camp they come, or will you implement only the president's economic program, which still includes several negative aspects along with positive ones?

[Chyhir] The president will not draft a complete economic program alone; the government should deal with that, and we will seek the president's support regarding specific economic concepts of the cabinet. If any party or movement has some interesting ideas, why should we not use them. What difference does it make who has come forward with a proposal; the main thing is that it must benefit the people. Actually, the government's main objective is to improve our life. Should we fail to do that, we will have to step down. There is no other option. It is therefore absolutely natural that we are not going to stick to any ideological dogmas, and we will thank anyone for wise, well-considered, and scientifically substantiated proposals.

[Kisel] What were the results of the negotiations with the IMF leadership?

[Chyhir] It can be said that there are all grounds to be pleased with the results of the talks. I would not like to provide specific figures now, or to speak about the assistance we discussed, yet, there should be development in relations with the IMF. The essence of our problems has yet to be examined by the fund itself, and I think that we will inform the public about this issue.

[Kisel] Is it true that the president, having coordinated it with you, has canceled many decisions made by Kebich during the election campaign? In particular, this relates to certain privileges, as well as to the well-known Council of Ministers resolution to allot plots of land to all those who want to build cottages by 1 September.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Chyhir] I have not had such a conversation with the president, and there has been no decision to cancel anything; let the people not worry. On the other hand, I have a somewhat different viewpoint on certain privileges. In particular, this relates to free fares for certain categories of citizens. Public transportation is unprofitable, it has almost been destroyed, also by privileges. I understand that this problem is very delicate, one should be careful here, but I am against transportation privileges in their current form. We have to cover these losses from the budget anyway, so, whom do we want to cheat?

Regarding the plots of land, if we had begun to allot them 15 years ago, then, I can assure you, we would not have had a housing problem now. But, one can only regret that now. People are currently building houses, but not always those who need them. The government, which, to put it politely, has distributed loans in not the best way, is to be blamed for many things. This is, however, a topic for another conversation. One must restore order in this area as well. In his election program, the president commented on this clearly enough—the state will first of all help those who are truly destitute. [passage omitted]

[Kisel] Let us presume that your viewpoints on primary issues do not agree with the president's, and the president has acted against your position. What will you do in such a case: Will you resign? Will you seek the parliament's support? Or will you give up your principal position and continue to work as if nothing happened?

[Chyhir] We have agreed with the president that if a decision is to be made, which does not conform to my standpoint, I will ask him to display patience and give me an opportunity to use all options to prove that this should not be done and why. We agreed on this so that the president is ready and correctly understands my tough stance and rejection, should I be convinced that a decision is wrong. Since the president and the government have decided to do the same thing, I hope there will not be many such conflicting situations. Still, it is quite possible that they will occur. I admit that I may be unable to prove something, but I am not alone in the government. I can always tell the president: Alyaksandr Ryhoravich, if you believe that I am wrong, let us listen to other people, let us involve more minds, to avoid hasty and harmful decisions. At worst, if we disagree on global, fundamental issues, my resignation will not be ruled out—this is a fully civilized progression. However, I have not even thought about threatening my resignation over some unimportant things.

[Kisel] Although my next question may seem tactless, I will ask it anyway. The current government has already been tagged the government of the doomed, meaning that you will have to resign in a certain period of time. Are you not afraid that you will be sacrificed by the president if there are economic failures?

[Chyhir] Well, I will tell you a secret. Before Lukashenka offered me this post, it was suggested to the president that he form an interim government, one which would have taken unpopular measures, used methods of shock therapy, and resigned, meaning that these people should have assumed an ignoble role and exposed themselves to the people's anger. To my personal delight, the president immediately turned down this proposal. He said: No, I will not form an interim government, I will form a government which will be working permanently. The choice fell upon me and the people who are currently working with me.

Of course, one cannot be completely sure of success. Life is complex, and anything can happen. It is possible that the current government will be replaced, and there is nothing wrong with that, though we will try to act in a way so that there are not only failures. For how long can one experiment with the people? People are not guinea pigs. I want to believe that we will be able to prove that we are not a government of the doomed.

If your question is paraphrased, it will sound as follows: Under any circumstances, is the president able to blame the government for everything and remain clean? I have currently no grounds to suspect the president of any intentions to sacrifice me. I believe Alyaksandr Ryhoravich, and we have decided to support one another, and not to trip one another up.

[Kisel] The last question concerns when the people can expect an improvement in their lives? What is your prognosis for developments this year?

[Chyhir] Living standards depend not only on the Republic's leadership, but also on the people. Positive results can only be achieved if the people display support and understand our actions. I cannot promise that something will be achieved tomorrow. We need time. I think that the first six months will be the most difficult for the authorities and the people. We hope to see the first signs of improvement in the first or second quarter of next year. It is true that the situation can be complicated by the fact that, due to the current drought, we may be short around 2 million tonnes of grain, particularly in southern regions of Belarus. Still, I have no doubts that the people will have enough bread and foodstuffs, though maybe not the superb quality ones. We will make every possible effort to achieve that. Regarding true improvements, one must suffer a bit to see those develop. One must not lose hope, even though we will have to proceed to the better through the worse. I will repeat, we pin our hopes on the people's support and understanding for actions of the president and the government.

Chyhir Says Nation Not Ready for Monetary Union

LD0908130294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1036 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] As the state of the economy in Russia differs from that in Belarus, the monetary systems of the two republics cannot be brought together overnight, Belarusian Prime Minister Mikhail Chyhir believes.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Speaking at his first news-conference in Minsk Monday, he noted that Belarus was not yet ready for a monetary union with Russia because of "the galloping pace of inflation" (up to 40 percent a month) and the difference in the speed of market reforms in both countries.

He voiced his cabinet's intention to liberalize electricity and gas tariffs shortly and explained that this liberalization would proceed gradually "and under cabinet control at the initial stage."

"If everything goes smoothly, the cabinet will eventually stop controlling fuel prices altogether," Chyhir said.

He said that "in a couple of weeks" a government decision is expected on decreasing the denomination of notes by a factor of ten (i.e. 1000 rubles become 100 rubles).

ROE Drops After Introduction of Cash Controls

MM0908125794 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Aug 94 p 1

[Report by BELINFORM correspondent Yekaterina Vysotskaya and TASS: "Dollar Rate Falls Sharply in Belorussia. All It Took Was Restricted Circulation of Cash Rubles"]

[Text] Minsk, 8 Aug—The U.S. currency rate fell sharply in Belorussia [Belarus] after the National Bank restricted the circulation of Belorussian [Belarusian] cash rubles.

The dollar, which for a long time was worth 28,000 "zaychiks," has fallen to the 22,000-23,000 mark.

The republic's National Bank has established tight control of cash monetary resources and, in particular, has introduced restrictions on the amount of cash resources at banks.

Henceforth the amount of freely convertible cash currency that can be purchased is limited by the proceeds that can be made from its sale. The issue of cash to purchase petroleum oils and lubricants has been banned, the procurement of agricultural products is under strict control, and the issue of cash from noncash accounts is banned.

Bread, Milk Subsidies To Be Abolished

LD0908165594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1337 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By BELINFORM correspondent Larisa Lazar]

[Text] Minsk, 9 Aug—The government of Belarus will have to take unpopular measures, abolishing subsidies for bread and milk. The average price for a loaf of bread and a liter of milk are expected to reach 4,000 and 3,000 rubles respectively in September.

"If we do not adjust the pricing policy, all attempts to overcome the crisis are bound to end in failure," Vice Premier Syarhey Linh told BELINFORM today. "By subsidizing bread and milk production the republic is in effect subsidizing the economies of the neighboring states, to which cheap Belarusian produce is exported."

In Linh's view, situation producers have no incentive currently to manufacture the required foodstuffs. He said it is necessary to release the prices to bridge the enormous gap between the existing and the real prices. However, this process will be gradual he said. Its first stage will be supervised by the government.

Necessary measures were taken to ensure that the proceeds from the price increase, amounting to 120 billion rubles every month, are sent directly to those in need; i.e., pensioners, disabled, and children.

Moldova

Chisinau Hits Romania's Statement on Constitution

LD0908210894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1837 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] The Moldovan government disapproved of the recent statement made by Romania in which it gives a negative assessment of the new Moldovan Constitution adopted on July 28.

The Moldovan government response reads that the special kind of relations between the two countries does not provide for one of them to disapprove of the other due to internal reforms in the society.

The Moldovan government regarded the actions of Bucharest as seeking to force the thesis on the existence of two Romanian states as a result of which Romania wants to become an "older brother who has the right to give advice."

Kishinyov believes that the statement of the Romanian leaders "reflects the platform of the Kishinyov parliamentary opposition, the leaders of which never accepted the idea of real independence." The Moldovan government said that in this case giving backing to the opposition "could only do harm to relations between our countries."

The Moldovan government said it hopes that in its relations with Moldova the Romanian government will strictly respect the choice of a people to determine their own future.

Russian-Moldovan Troop Withdrawal Talks Held

LD0908130994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1036 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Russian and Moldovan negotiators meeting for two days of talks in Kishinev [Chisinau] on Tuesday have spoken of their determination to complete work on agreeing the status, procedure and timetable of Russian

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

troop withdrawal and the future of Russia's 14th Army deployed in that country. The latest round is the 10th of its kind so far.

Russian envoy Vladimir Kitayev and First Deputy Moldovan Foreign Minister Nikolay Osmokescu lead the two delegations. The meeting also involves a Transdniestrian delegation led by Stefan Kitsak, military aide to the president of the self-styled Transdniestrian Moldovan Republic.

The sides are also expected to discuss a number of other papers to the main agreement to work out what Kitayev called the complete and clear-cut mechanism of Russian troop withdrawals, well-informed sources told INTERFAX.

The timetable of troop withdrawals will be the main stumbling block at the talks. Russia has insisted on a three year period in which to wind up its presence there, but Moldova will settle only for 18 months. It is now known the two sides are ready to strike a compromise.

Dniester Delegation Walks Out

LD0908211494 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2022 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS free-lance correspondent Anatoliy Kholodyuk]

[Text] Tiraspol, 10 August—The Dniester delegation, which participated on 9 August in Kishinev [Chisinau] in the 10th round of talks between Moldovan and Russian delegations on the future of the 14th Russian Army, left the conference hall in protest against its opinion being ignored, General Stefan Kitsak, head of the Dniester delegation, announced on Tiraspol radio late on Tuesday.

He said the official statement handed to the Russian and Moldovan sides read: "The Dniester delegation's participation in the talks was, in fact, reduced to mere presence and its views were in no way heeded by Kishinev."

Stefan Kitsak believes that until the Dniester region's political status has been defined, a partial withdrawal or disbandment of the 14th Russian Army stationed in the Dniester region is out of the question, since this can upset the balance of forces in the region.

The Dniester side demands that its equal participation in the talks in Kishinev be ensured, Gen. Kitsak remarked.

Delegation Leaders Explain Stands

LD1008082594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0734 GMT 10 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS]

[Text] Kishinev [Chisinau], Aug 10 TASS—The Dniester delegation which participated in the tenth round of talks on the withdrawal of the 14th Russian Army between the Moldavian [Moldovan] and Russian delegations held in Kishinev on Tuesday, walked out of the talks, said the head of the Dniester delegation, General Shtefan Kitsak, over the Tiraspol radio late on Tuesday evening.

He stressed that the reason for the walk-out was disregard for his delegation's opinion at the talks.

The general noted that an official statement handed over to the Russian and Moldavian sides says: "The participation of the Dniester delegation actually boils down to the presence at the talks. Its opinion is not taken into account in Kishinev in any way".

Moscow and Kishinev may reach a compromise at the tenth round of talks on the withdrawal of the 14th Russian Army, which started in the Moldavian capital on August 9, said head of the Moldavian delegation Nikolae Osmokesku, deputy foreign minister.

According to the deputy minister, the Moldavian delegation intends to agree completely a procedure and timetable for the army's withdrawal across the territory of neighbouring Ukraine. Kishinev suggested at the previous round of talks that the army should be pulled out within the next 18 months.

The Russian delegation led by ambassador-at-large Vladimir Kitayev insisted on a three-year period. At the same time, the delegation of the Dniester region (breakaway republic which wants independence from Moldavia) where Russian troops are stationed, claims that the army should not be withdrawn until the Dniester problem is settled.

"I believe that the delegations will reach a compromise at this round," press secretary of the Moldavian Defence Ministry Ion Mastak told ITAR-TASS.

He added that reorganisation recently started in the command of the 14th Army as well as different rumours in the press concerning a possible removal of Lieutenant-General Aleksandr Lebed from the army's command will not influence progress at talks.

Russian Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Moldavia Vladimir Plechko, who participates in the talks, told ITAR-TASS that the success of the talks would depend on how well experts, above all Moldavian specialists, examined issues under discussion.

Otherwise, negotiators will be again drawn into discussions of auxiliary importance, Plechko said. This is especially true of differences which emerged at talks between the Moldavian delegation and representatives of the Dniester region.

In the opinion of the Russian ambassador, these disagreements could be settled on the eve, during an intra-Moldavian dialogue.

It is planned that the talks will last two days.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Dniester Issues Statement on 14th Army's Status

AU0908210194 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1845 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 6/8/1994—Yesterday, the Press Center of the Dniester Supreme Soviet issued a declaration on the changes in the 14th Army's status. It states that Tiraspol authorities were informed by Eduard Vorobyov, Russian infantry deputy commander, about the decision by the Defense Ministry on the 14th Army Command dissolution. "It may be concluded from what General Vorobyov said that the reorganization has to do with the necessity of changing the status of the 14th Army units in conformity with the real contingent of the Army dislocated in Dniester."

According to the declaration, Tiraspol officials "hope that this decision does not mark the beginning of the 14th Army's withdrawal and is not connected with the decision by the Vienna Conference on July 5, 1994 which decided, at the Moldovan side's insistence, to withdraw unconditionally the 14th Army, which contradicts the Russian-Moldovan Convention. According to this convention, the 14th Army withdrawal will be synchronized with the granting of the special political status to Dniester," states the declaration.

Referring to the Russian Army's role in the settlement of the Dniester conflict, it states that the Army "maintains an equilibrium of forces whose violation could lead to the resumption of the conflict which will not exclude the temptation to settle the Dniester conflict by force." The declaration says that the soldiers who will be dismissed as a result of the 14th Army's reorganization will have "all political, juridical, and social rights equal to those of Dniester citizens." It also says that lodgings will be granted to all these soldiers.

Military Council Denies Dissolution of 14th Army

AU0908195694 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1845 GMT 6 Aug 94

[Text] Tiraspol, BASAPRESS, 6/8/1994—The 14th Army Military Council issued today a release denying the alleged dismissal of the Army Headquarters in the near future. "Lately, the media has spread suppositions about a planned dissolution of the 14th Army Headquarters and some units subordinated to it," says the document. "Analysts connected this fact to the intention of the Supreme Russian Command to dismiss 14th Army Commander General Lieutenant Aleksandr Lebed; this way, the rumors gained a nuance of validity, on the background of Russia's persistent attempts to do this." The release notes that "the visit of Colonel General Eduard Vorobyov will prepare proposals for the fitting of Army leadership with the actual number of Russian military troops dislocated in Dniester. The army commander is on an ordinary vacation. The army activates under the usual regime."

Reactions To Lebed's Dismissal Reported

AU0908164194 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1730 GMT 5 Aug 94

[Text] Tiraspol, BASAPRESS, 5/8/1994—Yesterday, 4 August, the 14th Army command declared a state of alert to counteract eventual arm and munitions thefts and the occupation of the officers' lodgings by Tiraspol extremist organizations, BASA learned this from Colonel Mikhail Bergman in a telephone discussion. According to another source from the 14th Army Command, General Major Yuriy Chebrakov received from the Russian Defense Ministry a letter on the officers' actions in this situation. According to it, officers are obliged not to violate the military discipline and not to make statements to the media. This letter was sent as a result of yesterday's unofficial meeting of the officers that proposed to disobey the Russian Defense Ministry if General Lebed is dismissed. According to unconfirmed information, Lebed will arrive in Tiraspol on August 10 or 11.

On the other hand, Tiraspol authorities representatives refuse to comment on the situation in the 14th Army. Sources from the Dniester Supreme Soviet declared that the dismissed officers could be engaged in the Dniester military forces.

In unofficial discussions, Igor Smirnov [Dniester leader] stated that "Lebed could have become inconvenient for the Russian leadership as he compromised military issues by engaging in politics." Smirnov denied his involvement in Lebed's eventual dismissal as 14th Army commander and said the dismissal of 237 officers will not harm the contingent of 8,000 Russian soldiers that he alleged is to be transformed into a military base.

Transition of 14th Army to 'Border Guards' Viewed

AU1008075294 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1922 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 3/8/1994—Euro-Atlantic Centre Chairman Nicolae Chirtoaca, former Moldovan presidential counselor on military problems, calls General Aleksandr Lebed's recall to Moscow and the 14th Army's transformation into a contingent of border-guards troops of the Russian peacekeeping forces "unequivocal." Nicolae Chirtoaca stated to BASA that he does not exclude that the Kremlin "realizes that the 14th Army should be withdrawn from Moldova." In this case General Lebed, who previously stated that the 14th Army will not leave Dniester in the next 10 years, will become an inconvenient person.

In his opinion, the 14th Army's transformation could be deemed as a transitory stage of its withdrawal. On the other hand, Chirtoaca considers that these changes could have the most negative consequences for Moldova. "The 14th Army's transformation into 'a contingent of border-guards troops of the Russian peacekeeping forces' was made by the Moscow officials unilaterally and violates

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

the July 21 1992 agreement between Mircea Snegur and Boris Yeltsin." He also said that the Russian Defence Ministry's decision can be regarded as "an apparent transformation of the 14th Army in order to delay its withdrawal from Moldova. In this relatively new situation, the Kremlin will use the peacekeeping forces to legitimate Russian military presence in the CIS countries.

The Tiraspol leader consider General Lebed's recall as Moscow's support of their activity and this will intensify the separatist trends in Moldova," Chirtoaca said. He pointed out that "Russia's initiative put Moldova's leadership in a difficult situation" as the Russian troops gained total control over the eastern Moldovan districts. Therefore, the Dniester dispute will not be settled in the nearest future contrary to what "the agrarian-socialist majority in the Moldovan Parliament hoped." He does not exclude that the 10th round of Moldovan-Russian negotiations on the 14th Army's withdrawal will show Moscow's real position on the settlement of the Dniester problem. "Moldova is still a polygon used by Russia to experience new forms of its foreign policy that assume the involvement of the military contingent," Nicolae Chirtoaca concluded.

Russian Officer's Body Found in Dniester River

LD0908173694 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1638 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS freelance correspondent Anatoliy Kholodyuk]

[Text] Tiraspol, 9 Aug—The dead body of Lieutenant Dmitriy Sogomonov of the Russian peacekeeping forces, who disappeared without trace in possession of his rifle in Dubossary on the night of 7 August, was found in the river Dniester today. An ITAR-TASS correspondent was informed of this at the military commandant's office in Bendery by sources who wished to remain anonymous. No weapon was found with the dead Russian officer. An investigation into the incident is under way.

Mafia Attempting To Buy 14th Army's Weapons

AU0908164294 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1945 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 8/8/1994 BASAPRESS—After the intentions of the Moscow Ministry of Defense to reorganize the 14th Army's General Staff were made public, representatives of Moscow and Kiev mafia groups arrived in Tiraspol to purchase the 14th Army armament, told BASA Colonel Mikhail Bergman. According to him, a group of 14th Army officers is suspected of concluding transactions with mafia. "On the other hand, Dniester officials make efforts to take over the 14th Army armament," concluded Bergman.

Special State Protection Service Set Up

AU1008070794 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1730 GMT 5 Aug 94

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 5/8/1994—The special protection service, created recently, will ensure the security of the state, governmental and parliamentary officials, and foreign delegations. This protection service will also insure the protection of the president's, government's, and parliament's headquarters. Governmental sources told BASA that the service is absolutely autonomous and is directly subordinated to the presidential administration. Previously, the president's and prime minister's security was provided by employees of the Moldovan Ministry of National Security while the headquarters were guarded by a special Ministry of Interior battalion. Vitalie Andronic, 40, brother of the Parliament Deputy Speaker Nicolae Andronic, has been appointed head of this protection service. The service employs about 200 people. It also includes an analysis department. Valeriu Andronic, KGB employee and later of the Ministry of National Security, previously was head of the department for combating economic crimes.

Gagauz Republic To Mark Fourth Anniversary

AU1008055794 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1945 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] Comrat, BASAPRESS, 8/8/1994—Comrat is preparing to mark the 4th anniversary of the Gagauz Republic. Nikolai Telpiz, Gagauz deputy speaker and chairman of the festivities organizational committee, stated to BASA that a solemn session will be summoned in Comrat on August 18. President Stepan Topal declared 19 August a holiday. Guests from the self-proclaimed Dniestr republic, Abkhazia, South Osetia, Azerbaijan, Tatarstan, the Ukraine, Turkey, Moscow, and St. Petersburg were invited to the festivities. It is planned to invite the Moldovan leadership to the festivities. Nikolai Telpiz specified that the expenses will be defrayed by local budgets and by some businessmen whom he refused to name. The guests and representatives of workers and public organizations will also take part in 23-24 August festivities devoted to "the liberation of Moldova and Comrat from the yoke of the Romanian-fascist occupants," Telpiz pointed out.

Chisinau Ready To Discuss Gagauz Claims

AU1008075894 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1922 GMT 4 Aug 94

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 3/8/1994—The adoption in the first reading of the draft law on special juridical status for the districts densely inhabited by Gagauzians "has been necessary to prove to the Gagauz people who reside there, as well as to international organizations, that Chisinau is ready to discuss this problem," Nicolae Andronic, Moldovan deputy speaker, declared for National Radio. He also stated that the draft will

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

undoubtedly be modified in the second reading. "Personally, I favour a local referendum to be held in the Gagauz villages under the auspices of international organizations to see that the situation in this area has changed a great deal," said Andronic.

He also expressed his opinion that Comrat leaders maintain the same positions as they did in 1993 and that they have not taken into consideration Moldova's readiness to discuss and solve this problem. Meanwhile, Comrat has signed an agreement on economic and political cooperation with Tiraspol and South Ossetia, bringing about a major change of the situation. "We do not know what will happen in the future, but I want to assure you that Moldova will not curtail its sovereignty and integrity," concluded Andronic.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Kazakhstan

Prime Minister Receives Turkish Defense Minister

LD0908175294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1510 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By KAZTAG correspondent Ivan Zakharchenko—TASS]

[Text] Almaty August 9 TASS—Kazakh Prime Minister Sergey Tereshchenko received today Turkish Defence Minister Mehmet Golhan, currently here on an official visit, to discuss bilateral economic and political relations.

Kazakhstan has huge mineral resources and raw material stocks, said the Kazakh premier. The Tengiz oil deposit alone has a stock of two billion tones. The republic has 60 per cent of the world's chrome ore stock, and a considerable amount of coal and non-ferrous metals. Kazakh agriculture has some ten million cattle heads and 40 million sheep. It is planned to collect 20 million tones of grain this year, said Tereshchenko.

After the disintegration of the former Soviet Union, Kazakhstan had to process its raw materials itself. In this sphere the republic counts on foreign credits, investments and the 1,400 joint ventures it has formed. Some 183 joint ventures have been formed by Kazakhstan and Turkey. The production of telephone stations with Turkish participation will soon begin in Uralsk.

The prime minister thanked the Turkish minister for assistance in building of the Kazakh Armed Forces and stressed that Kazakh military specialists will study the Turkish defence experience and adopt it.

In his turn, Mehmet Golhan praised the results of his visit and said that Turkey is ready to share its experience of economic reforms and building of a democratic secular state.

On the same day the defence minister visited an air regiment to acquaint himself with the routine and combat training of the regiment personnel.

The minister will leave for Ankara on August 10.

Golhan Pledges Support for Kazakhstan

TA1008080394 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 2130 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Announcer-read report]

[Text] National Defense Minister Mehmet Golhan has declared that the continuation of peace in Central Asia and the Middle East depends on Turkey and Kazakhstan being strong countries. Golhan, who concluded his official visit to Kazakhstan, made a statement to Anatolia Agency in Almaty. He said that in its history of 70 years as a republic, Turkey has not coveted an inch of any other country and has pursued a peaceful policy.

Underlining the importance of Turkey and Kazakhstan becoming economically and militarily powerful countries, Golhan noted that this will constitute a guarantee for the region. The defense minister announced that Turkey, equipped with its experience in the fields of economy and democracy, will always support Kazakhstan. Golhan and the delegation accompanying him will proceed to Turkmenistan tomorrow.

Tajikistan

Labor Minister Discusses Refugees, Tajik Talks

LD1008100394 Dushanbe Radio Tajikistan Network in Tajik 0040 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Shukurjon Zuhurov, head of the government delegation in inter-Tajik talks and minister of labor and employment, held a news conference on 9 August in Dushanbe. Issues concerning the repatriation of refugees and forced migrants as well as the third round of inter-Tajik talks were discussed at the news conference.

According to information from government sources, during the civil war the republic suffered material damages estimated at 14 trillion rubles; 22,500 children lost their parents; more than 300,000 houses were completely or partially destroyed; and 230,000 people lost their jobs.

At present the repatriation of refugees is continuing successfully. Thousands of houses have been restored. A special commission is being set up to analyze the true of state of this problem.

Francois Pirlot, head of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees in Tajikistan, stated at the news conference that if favorable conditions were created, the repatriation of Tajik refugees from Afghanistan to their permanent places of residence ought to be completed by the end of the year. This in many respects depends on the third round of inter-Tajik talks. The talks will be attended by high ranking representatives of the constitutional government.

Democratic Nature of Elections Questioned

MM0808122594 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Aug 94 p 3

[Report by Boris Yuryev under the "Point of View" rubric: "Tajik Model of Elections for the CIS?"]

[Text] Elections in a foreign country rarely attract a lot of attention. Just how far the citizens of the former Union consider sovereign Tajikistan to be "foreign," however, is still a very contentious question. And does today's Russia have the right to abdicate all responsibility for it? The Russian state has too many interests in this region: military, geopolitical, defense of the borders, the protection of the Russian-speaking population, and, of course, the unification of the monetary systems which is already under way. And, naturally, Russia cannot but be interested in the genuinely democratic course of elections

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

without which it is impossible to speak of a balance of interests between the regions, nationalities, and, of course, the armed opposition.

For a long time, the republic's top people had emerged from Leninabad Oblast, where approximately 2 million of Tajikistan's 5-million strong population live. Representatives of the Kulyab region are in power today, headed by Republic Supreme Council Chairman Emomili Rakhmonov, who is also considered to be the leading contender for the presidential seat despite the fact that the people of Kulyab constitute the minority of Tajiks.

It is still too early for raders in Russia to reach for the submachine gun simply because too many natives of Yekaterinburg are installed in the Kremlin. But bloody wars between the people of Vladimir and the people of Novgorod have been known in Russian history, and the older generation will also be able to recall terrifying carnage—village against village, street against street. Therefore, the situation in Tajikistan is by no means a cause for arrogant "comparative anatomy" in the sphere of interethnic relations. For many long years, parity between the regions of Tajikistan was maintained artificially and more or less guaranteed stability. Then came the civil war, wiping out tens of thousands of lives, and today's unstable equilibrium has been paid for more than generously by the blood of the people.

Today, the interests of Russia and other CIS countries in Tajikistan are inextricably linked with internal stability, the sources of which, by analogy with other "troubled" regions of the former USSR, are seen in strengthening the institution of the presidency. It is quite clear that today's head of state sees himself in this capacity in the future too. His services in achieving peace, albeit shaky but peace nonetheless, are obvious. Naturally, by analogy with other CIS countries, he wants to lay down rules for the presidential race which will secure for himself a guaranteed first place. The temptation is great and insidious.

The proposed system of elections in Tajikistan is unusual for other regions of our former boundless motherland. As shown by the presidential elections in Crimea, Belorussia [Belarus], and Ukraine, as well as the parliamentary elections in Russia, the system of collecting signatures—even in huge quantities and in a short space of time—does not guarantee complete control at the stage of nominating candidacies. What is more, how can there be any talk of control under universal suffrage? The elections in warring Georgia and Azerbaijan, however, were rigidly controlled and with astounding results, approaching 99 percent. But in Tajikistan, the idea of stationing a guy with a gun at each polling station is not seen as possible.

So here, too, a very "Soviet" system for nominating candidates for the presidential post has been adopted. The right to nominate candidates is vested in Soviets of People's Deputies in the republic's regions: Leninabad Oblast, Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast, the city of Dushanbe, and a few of the most densely populated rayons. It is easier to "control" the deputies than it is an entire oblast, especially as, in reality, a candidate from among the people of Leninabad can be nominated only in Leninabad, and one from among the people of Pamir, naturally enough, in the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast.

From the point of view of political tactics, it is now easier to understand E. Rakhmonov's decision to offer himself as a candidate for the presidency from Leninabad Oblast Soviet too. Will the deputies decide to blackball the head of state who has just won a civil war and nominate another who, moreover, has a good chance of winning? They have until Saturday [6 August] to think about it, as this is when the Oblast Soviet session will take place.

If we turn our attention to strategy, the shortfalls of the temptation for those in power to gain even greater power are clear. Local observers believe that if E. Rakhmonov manages to "control" nominations in all directions, then the presidential elections will not provide the requisite easing of tension in society. If the inhabitants of various regions of the republic clearly perceive the unrepresentative nature of the list of candidates, which will comprise either one leader or else that leader surrounded by "losers," the opposition will look for unlawful ways of accessing the levers of the political game. Given that, as already stated, in today's system of government in Tajikistan the old system of representation of all clans in the structures of power has been replaced by the notable dominance of one clan—that of Kulyab—the future conflict acquires a kind of fatal character. And this is at a time when Tajikistan is home for 1.5 million Uzbeks who were previously underrepresented in the power structures, but after the civil war were able to hope for a change for the better in their situation. And for approximately 500,000 "Russian-speaking" people, previously "represented" in power by the second secretary of the Central Committee, but now, in point of fact, have fallen into the category of "undesirable elements." So, was the old system bad, and did it bear an ill-concealed feudal nature? Yes, it was and it did. But has anything been proposed to replace it, capable of the various groups of Tajikistan's citizens an opportunity to participate in political life? After all, there are also 800,000 refugees who also have the right to vote.

Real democratic presidential elections, with the candidates representing all Tajik "clans" and ethnic minorities and held under the mandatory control of international observers, could become the start of a process of national reconciliation. The profanation of elections in a country already accustomed to civil war is a thing as dangerous as it is tempting for the powers that be.

Uzbekistan

Iranian Foreign Minister Arrives in Tashkent

LD0908210494 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1930 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] The first round of talks between Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and Uzbek Foreign Minister Said-

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

mukhtar Saidkasymov, took place on Tuesday evening [9 August] in Tashkent. The two sides discussed ways of expanding bilateral relations as well as regional and international cooperation.

According to the Central News Unit, the Uzbek foreign minister described the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran as a strong government in world politics. He said the role of Iran in bilateral cooperation was important.

Our country's foreign minister proposed that the two countries' views on the expansion of ties be assessed. He said that the formation of a joint economic committee was necessary for the coordination of economic cooperation. The Iranian foreign minister also mentioned the participation of Uzbekistan in the construction of Mashhad-Sarakhs railway, which was welcomed by Uzbek officials.

Mr. Velayati arrived in Tashkent before noon on Tuesday, local time.

Velayati, Saidkasymov Discuss Ties

LD1008085894 Tehran IRNA in English 0811 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Tashkent, Aug 10, IRNA—Tehran-Tashkent ties as well as stability and peace in central Asia especially in Tajikistan and Caucasia were discussed by Iranian and Uzbek foreign ministers during their second round of talks here Tuesday.

The Uzbek Foreign Minister Saidmukhtar Saidkasymov termed as very important Iran's role in strengthening peace and tranquility in Afghanistan and underlined Tehran's initiatives in the Tajikistan peace talks.

He also described as constructive the second round of Tajikistan peace talks held in Tehran in June.

Outlining the stand of Uzbekistan regarding establishment of peace and democracy in Tajikistan, he termed as essential the granting of general amnesty in Tajikistan under the auspices of international organizations for the establishment of democracy in that country.

He lauded Iran's peaceful policies and underscored the importance of the continuation of efforts made by Iran and other neighbors of Tajikistan in the establishment of stability there.

Saidkasymov stressed that his country would cooperate with any government which would come to office in Tajikistan through free elections and by the votes of the people.

In reply Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati stressed independence of the central Asian countries and importance of the region to Iran and called for strengthening of the trend of Tajikistan peace talks and national reconciliation there.

Velayati stated that preservation and consolidation of independence of the central Asian republics would be possible through economic development and in the light of peace and security in the entire region.

Velayati who arrived here Tuesday on the first leg of his tour of central Asia is scheduled to visit Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan and Nakhichevan.

Afghan Envoy Charges Uzbek Interference in Affairs

LD0908140994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1319 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Yuriy Tyssovskiy]

[Text] Moscow, 9 Aug—"Uzbekistan is interfering directly in the internal affairs of the Islamic State of Afghanistan," 'Abdolvahhab Asefi, Afghanistan's ambassador to Russia said at a news conference held at the Russian-American press center today. "We have real proof of this."

Arms supplies from Uzbekistan by opposition forces, in particular by the Uzbek General Abdol Rashid Dostum, who opposes the Afghan leadership headed by President Borhanoddin Rabbani, are confirmed not only by our sources but also by reports in the independent world press, he noted. As an example the ambassador mentioned Uzbek ships violating Afghan territorial waters on the Amudarya river without any warning, which resulted, he said, in the Afghan authorities being obliged to detain them. Nonetheless, we are trying to resolve all our problems through talks with Tashkent, Asefi pointed out. Unfortunately, the attempts by the Afghan side in this direction are not being met with the appropriate positive response.

Namangan Oblast Discusses Economic Issues

LD0908123694 Tashkent Radio Tashkent Network in Russian 1900 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] A meeting of oblast actives was held in Namangan. Participants of the meeting discussed the duties derived from speeches by Uzbek President Islam Karimov at the Tashkent city session of people's deputies and at the meeting of Cabinet of Ministers of the republic devoted to the results of the first half year. Oblast governor Rabbighaliyev read a report. It was pointed out that some of the negative incidents that the president had mentioned are also taking place in Namangan. Economic issues should be fulfilled more efficiently. Working units must direct their efforts toward more production for world markets. Farms, enterprises working by government investments, and trade and consumer goods centers should contribute to filling the consumer market.

Participants of the meeting established clear measures for eliminating the shortcomings that have been allowed and improving activities in all fields. Uzbek Deputy Prime Minister Hakkulov also spoke at the meeting of the actives.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Armenia

Paper Previews Ter-Petrosyan's Washington Visit

MM1008104794 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Aug 94 p 3

[Report by Vladimir Nadein: "Clinton Intends To Show Yeltsin How To Reconcile Azerbaijanis and Armenians"]

[Text] Washington—When President Bill Clinton meets with Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan in the White House he will talk to him about the same thing which first Mikhail Gorbachev and then Boris Yeltsin discussed with Armenian leaders (first secretaries, council of ministers chairmen, committee chairmen)—the need to end the war.

In the United States, where the Armenian leader arrived Monday [8 August] on his first state visit, a great deal is known about the war but very little about it is understood.

This war arouses even more revulsion in Americans than other wars. In this war elementary norms regarding the treatment of POW's are not observed. In this war hostages are tortured. Ethnic cleansing, for which Europe is castigating the Serbs, long ago became a by no means extreme norm here.

Given the fairly extensive flow of information, especially in specialized publications covering international problems, the level of understanding of the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict remains strikingly primitive. Any action is perceived through the prism of Russia's imperial intrigues.

The powerful Armenian lobby has done virtually everything to ensure that the United States stays out of the talks process in the Transcaucasus. There are many Armenians in America, and they are influential—legislators who depend on the electorate's votes see nothing else and have no wish to see.

Under pressure from the superbly organized lobby, Congress, despite the protests of two administrations—first George Bush's then Bill Clinton's—voted to ban any aid to Azerbaijan except humanitarian aid. At the same time Congress allocated $75 million for Armenia's needs.

But its onerous status as the last superpower forces the White House to seek both a stick and a carrot for Armenia. The stick will most likely be the removal of the carrot—economic aid, the granting of which will be made dependent on the ability to end the war.

After making acquaintance with Levon Ter-Petrosyan, it will be Geydar Aliyev's turn. The Unites States is trying to work out a plan to use Azerbaijan's oil riches to achieve regional peace. International economic aid will be juxtaposed to the quite probable and effective Russian military aid.

The Armenian diaspora in America, which has proved to be not as generous as originally supposed by those determined to wage war until victory, will give independent Armenia's first president a rapturous and generous welcome. He will hear of plans to create a second Switzerland in the Yerevan area—with strong bank safes storing the riches of oil shaykhs and Near East dictators.

Although on arriving in Washington some of the president's recent comrades in arms have used personal contacts for complaints against Russia, considering this to be the best way of moving investors to pity, Ter-Petrosyan is unlikely to be inclined toward such exercises. Unlike Washington newspaper observers, he knows what is actually going on between his country and the once fraternal Azerbaijan.

Front Line Situation in Nagorno-Karabakh Reported

NC0908153594 Yerevan Radio Yerevan in Azeri 1330 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Dear listeners, we now present a report on the latest situation on the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] front line and the incidents on the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

The NKR Defense Army Headquarters has disclosed that the situation at the front line is relatively peaceful. However, Azerbaijan's military units systematically fire on the Armenian defense positions, particularly in the eastern and southeastern theaters. As we reported earlier, the NKR Defense Army continues to refrain from retaliating against the enemy's attacks. Observers believe that Azerbaijan is trying to create the impression that the Armenian side is responsible for the disruption of the relatively peaceful situation. Meanwhile, Azerbaijan has recently been observed to mass reinforcements and military hardware on various parts of the front line.

According to NKR intelligence reports, a large quantity of military equipment is being transported from Turkey to Azerbaijan. Most of that shipment is made up of artillery shells. Meanwhile, it has been reported that Turkish mercenaries are actively taking part in the effort that is being made to destroy and raze to the ground the historic monuments in Shaumyanovskiy Rayon. According to the observers, the intensive effort by the Turkish mercenary troops to destroy the Armenian and Russian monuments is not accidental. A similar development took place in western Armenia early in the century, when many Armenian cultural and historic monuments were destroyed.

Considering all that, the relatively peaceful situation can be viewed as unstable. Tension prevails in many of Armenia's rayons that border on Azerbaijan. Not a single day passes without shots being fired from that republic at the Armenian defense positions in Noyemberyanskiy, Tavushskiy, Idzhevanskiy, Sisianskiy, and other Rayons.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

We have been informed by the Armenian Ministry of Defense Press Center that tension escalated on the border between Armenia and the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic [NAR] once again yesterday. Azerbaijan's military forces uninterruptedly fired on the defense positions around Brnakot and [placename indistinct] in Sisianskiy Rayon for two and a half hours. The enemy forces later fired on the positions around Yeraskhavan in Araratskiy Rayon. The firing continued until 2300.

Military units based in the NAR fired on the defense positions around Yeraskhavan from 0400 to 0800 this morning. Several people were wounded. Our border guards were forced to take retaliatory measures.

Obviously there is a significant difference between the NAR's words and deeds. On the one hand, the NAR officials hold talks with the Armenian side to end the shooting, while on the other hand they continue their disgusting activities. Who knows, foreign forces that wish to disrupt the relatively peaceful situation may be responsible for that state of affairs. Nevertheless, the NAR leaders are responsible for each and every activity in their region. Unfortunately, the people will suffer. It seems that the NAR either finds it difficult or is unable to draw sensible conclusions from the situation in the other regions.

Official Reports Azerbaijan Cease-Fire Violations

NC1008134794 Yerevan ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN in English 0730 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] [No dateline as received] Commenting on the current military-political situation in the region, head of the RMK [Republic of Mountainous Karabakh] Department of Information and Press [DIP] Maksim Hovhannisyan said that violations of the cease- fire by the Azeri troops are related with recent declarations of the Azeri officials about shakiness of the cease-fire agreement.

According to Hovhannisyan, declaration of the Azeri State Councillor Vafa Gulizade that international security forces will probably never enter the conflict zone and only observers were concerned, is particularly dangerous. Head of the RMK DIP said that statement of the Azeri Government that stationing of peace-making forces will only be possible after withdrawal of Karabakh forces from Lachin and Shusha is provocation. Hovhannisyan said, Baku is worried by real possibility of final resolution of the Karabakh conflict and therefore suggests conditions unacceptable for the Karabakh side.

Border Guards Shot At From Nakhichevan Territory

LD0908191894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1610 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Armenian border guards in the Sisian Region (southwestern Armenia) were shot at on the evening of August 8 from the territory of the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic, the press center of the Armenian Defense Ministry told Interfax.

Early this morning the Armenian positions near the Yeraskhvan Village of the Ararat Region (southern Armenia) were also subjected to fire from Nakhichevan.

The press center of the Armenian Defense Ministry reported casualties among servicemen. Armenian border guards were forced to take counter measures, the same source added.

Sources in the Armenian Defense Ministry said they believe the actions of Nakhichevan military formations prove their intention to entangle Armenia into escalating military confrontation on its borders.

Interfax so far has no information on the position of the Azerbaijani military on the incidents at the Armenian-Nakhichevan border.

Emigrants Blame 'Tyranny' for Decision To Leave

MM0808141794 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Aug 94 p 1

[Report by Boris Mkrtchyan: "Emigration: Tyranny Blamed for Everything"]

[Text] Why are non-Russian nationals emigrating from the near abroad to Russia? The All-Russia Association for Socioeconomic Studies has conducted an extensive public opinion poll among citizens of the near abroad now in Moscow and Moscow Oblast. The newspaper GOLOS ARMENII has published the section of the poll's material which reflects the view of Armenian nationals.

When asked "Give the reasons for your leaving Armenia," 62.7 percent of respondents replied that they were forced to leave the republic owing to tyranny by local law enforcement organs and the hopelessness of entrepreneurial activity.

In the opinion of 24 percent of respondents the situation in Armenia will not change in the foreseeable future. And 67 percent said that the situation will deteriorate. Hence, presumably, respondents take the view that, in order to improve the situation in Armenia, what is needed is the resignation of the president and the government (39 percent), early parliamentary elections (20 percent), or a struggle against organized crime and mafia groupings (21 percent). As for radical economic reform as a means of improving life in the republic, only 9 percent of respondents were in favor of that.

Last, in response to the last question "With which politician do you associate an improvement in the situation in Armenia?", 65 percent of respondents named members of the opposition. Only 4 percent favored the republic's incumbent President Levon Ter-Petrosyan, whereas 17 percent of respondents suggested Karen Demirchyan, former first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Ter-Petrosyan on Security Service Reorganization

LD0808162394 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1135 GMT 7 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan, 7 Aug—In Armenia's State Directorate for National Security, 10 times more work has been done in the last six months than in the preceding four years. Speaking at a conference of heads of law enforcement bodies, Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan gave this rating to the department's activities. The president's speech at the conference was broadcast on republican television today.

Ter-Petrosyan mentioned, among other things, his 14 January decree on the reorganization of Armenia's special services. He said that the point of this document was, in fact, to destroy the KGB. Circumstances did not allow these changes to be carried out earlier, he said. Ter-Petrosyan believes that the previous KGB structure was not capable of meeting the needs of an independent state. Having ceased to fulfill the functions it had performed under Soviet power, this department had been given no new tasks, Ter-Petrosyan said, adding that in the last four years the republic had had no intelligence or counterintelligence services.

The president announced that there had been serious signals regarding the third main department of the state administration—for fighting organized crime—indicating that this department was developing links with the criminal world. According to Ter-Petrosyan, the final blow for the State Directorate for National Security was the commercial service set up in the department, an issue with which the republican procurator's office is currently dealing.

Today the president declared: The January decree has been fully implemented. The commercial service and the third department have been abolished, and staff have been checked out. He listed among the department's current objectives issues relating to staff training, setting up special subsections, and setting up intelligence and counterintelligence services.

'New' Liberal Democratic Party Founded

NC0908190494 Yerevan SNARK in English 1624 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Yerevan, August 9 (SNARK)—Ramkavar-Azatakan Party of Armenia (liberal-democratic) has discredited liberal-democratic movement in Armenia, as it was done in Russia by Zhirinovskiy in Russia. This is a statement of Vigen Khachatryan, leader of Ramkavar party's faction in the Armenian Parliament, who is in the split off group. This group is going to establish new party.

In the statement made today the "new" Armenian Liberal-Democrats accused the "old" party's board of bureaucracy and deviation from the role of constructive opposition.

In "split off committee" which consists of 31 people there are seven deputies of the Armenian parliament. According to Vihen Khachatryan they hope that in future 70 per cent of the "old" party will join to newly established party.

Azerbaijan

Helsinki Watch Appeals to Clinton on Nagorno-Karabakh

NC0908204194 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] The Helsinki Watch Organization has called on President Clinton to urge President Levon Ter-Petrosyan to end Armenia's military intervention in Daghlyk Karabakh [Nagorno-Karabakh]. The non-governmental Helsinki Watch Organization, which was established in 1978, supervises the adherence to human rights in Africa, North and South America, Asia, the Middle East, and the countries which have signed the Helsinki Accord. The organization's branch in Helsinki has united with the International Federation of Human Rights Organizations in Helsinki. The federation itself is based in Vienna.

The Azerbaijan Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Center has disclosed the text of that international organization's appeal to President Ter-Petrosyan on the eve of his official visit to Washington from 9 to 11 August. The appeal is dated 6 August 1994. It says that, regardless of the Armenian Government's rejection of the reports that Armenia is carrying out military operations, the Helsinki Watch Organization has ascertained that the Armenian military forces have significantly supported the fictitious Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] since the end of 1993. Meanwhile, Armenia has dispatched military forces to liberate the NKR and occupy areas close to the front line.

(Jerry Labor), executive director of the Helsinki Watch Organization, has also sent a letter to President Ter-Petrosyan to express deep concern over Armenia's participation in the aggressive war. The letter recalls the Armenian Government's official rejection of the reports that Armenian military forces have participated in the Karabakh dispute, and says that the representatives of the Helsinki Watch Organization who visited Armenia, Azerbaijan, and the fictitious NKR for 30 days established that military units under the Armenian Government's control have been deployed for large-scale combat operations.

The letter says: Our mission, which has brought several facts to light, has established that Armenia's armed forces, not volunteers, played an important role in the fighting in Daghlyk Karabakh during Armenia's onslaught in April and May 1993 and Azerbaijan's attack in December in the same year. The Armenian units guard a large part of the front line. They operate the communication lines and supply routes. They also use

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

units with high fighting capability to take part in offensive operations. Information on Armenia's military intervention was received even earlier. Reports were received on Armenia's involvement in the clashes during the attack on Azerbaijan's Kelbadzharskiy Rayon in March and April 1993.

The representatives of the Helsinki Watch Organization have disclosed that they met with military units which were transported in buses from Armenia to Daghlyk Karabakh prior to the Armenian attack on Terter in April 1994. They observed five Ikarus type buses transporting military troops to Daghlyk Karabakh on Sunday, 17 April 1994. All of the troops were armed with automatic weapons. An officer denied that the military units were going to Daghlyk Karabakh. However, he later clearly admitted that they were on their way to Daghlyk Karabakh, stressing that Karabakh belongs to the Armenians and must be defended.

The facts that were outlined in the letter (Jerry Labor) conveyed to President Ter-Petrosyan were numerous. The letter says that the (Geribulur) military cemetery in Yerevan regrettably confirmed that the Armenian Government has been involved in the dispute. All the Armenian citizens who are killed in the fighting in Karabakh are buried in that cemetery.

The Helsinki Watch Organization called on the Armenian Government not to dispatch military forces to Daghlyk Karabakh. The letter notes that the present approach will only broaden the scope of the fighting and create an opportunity for the Armenians in Karabakh to launch military operations. (Jerry Labor) concludes as follows: We reiterate the call for an independent investigation into the killing of eight military servicemen and demand all the culprits be punished.

Baku Ready To Sign Political Treaty With Yerevan

LD0908174894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1521 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Sevindzh Abdullayeva, Viktor Shulman]

[Text] Baku August 9 TASS—Azerbaijan is ready to sign any time a comprehensive political treaty with Armenia on complete termination of combat operations and settlement of the Karabakh problem if this document takes into account Azeri national interests, Azeri state adviser for foreign policy Vafa Gulizade told ITAR-TASS here today, commenting on press reports about possible treaty signing by the Azeri and Armenian presidents on August 30.

In the words of the adviser, he cannot name the precise date of the treaty signing because the comprehensive document is being elaborated in Moscow with the mediation of the Russian Foreign Ministry. The work is being done in a confidential atmosphere and the sides agreed to abstain from any comments before the draft agreement is ready.

Gulizade hopes that a reasonable decision will be taken and the conflict will be terminated.

Accord Pends Ceding of Territory

LD1008144194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1319 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Azerbaijan is ready to sign a comprehensive political agreement to settle the Karabakh conflict and to discuss the status of Nagorno-Karabakh only if the Armenian party agrees to relinquish all Azerbaijani territories, including Shusha and Lachin, Azerbijan's state adviser on foreign policy Vafa Guluzade declared in his interview with Interfax.

Galuzade said Armenian and Azerbaijani experts are working on this agreement in Moscow at present with the mediation of plenipotentiary representative of the Russian president Vladimir Kazimirov. Guluzade said the parties agreed not to make public any information on the course of the negotiations.

At the same time he indicated that "the peace process has been initiated thanks to the great contribution of the CSCE and the Russian Federation."

Turkey Reportedly Supplying Arms

NC0908132794 Yerevan ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN in English 0736 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Stepanakert ("AZG" daily), 08/09/94--Though there have been no significant changes at the Karabakh fronts and the sides are generally keeping the July 27 cease-fire, the Azeri units are regularly shelling the Karabakh defense positions, particularly at the eastern and south-eastern directions. At the same time, concentration of Azeri manpower and equipment is reported at several sections of the front.

RMK [Republic of Mountainous Karabakh] military reconnaissance reports that new batches of ammunition, mainly artillery shells, are being transferred from Turkey to Azerbaijan. The same sources report, Turkish mercenaries are actively participating in destruction of historical monuments in the Shahumyanovskiy [Geranboyskiy] district.

Turkish Minister Continues Contacts

TA0908185794 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1700 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Mustafa Goruryilmaz report from Baku]

[Text] Azerbaijan President Geydar Aliyev received Veysel Atasoy, energy and natural resources minister who is on an official visit in Baku. At the meeting, Aliyev stated that Azerbaijan seeks to end the six-year-old war

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

with Armenia and added that the peace agreement will contribute significantly to developing regional countries.

Aliyev said meetings on how to handle the Azeri oil are being held in the United States and expressed belief that an agreement will be signed soon. Pointing out that the oil pipeline will be discussed at a later stage, Aliyev said that Turkey and Azerbaijan share same views on the subject. Aliyev noted that cooperation in the field of Turkey supplying electricity to Azerbaijan and later marketing the energy produced is of great significance.

Atasoy, in turn, said that Turkey is making every effort necessary to expand cooperation with Azerbaijan and added that he held very useful meetings in Baku.

Atasoy also communicated to Aliyev the goodwill messages of President Suleyman Demirel and Prime Minister Tansu Ciller. He was later received by Supreme Soviet Chairman Rasul Guliyev. The issues of operating the Azeri oil and transporting it by pipelines were discussed at the meeting. Tomorrow, Atasoy will sign a protocol which envisages the supply of electricity by Turkey and Azerbaijan to Nakhichevan.

Atasoy will later leave Baku to return to Turkey.

Turkey Asked To Supply Power to Nakhichevan

NC0908195994 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Today Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev received a delegation led by the Turkish Energy and Natural Resources Minister Veysel Atasoy, who is on an official visit to our republic.

Our correspondent reports:

[Begin Recording] [Correspondent Kamal Serveroglu] In opening the talks, President Geydar Aliyev highly assessed the visit to Azerbaijan of the delegation of the Energy and Natural Resources Ministry, which is one of the leading ministries in Turkey, and its contacts here on joint work. He noted that first of all this visit shows the broadening of the friendly relations between Azerbaijan and Turkey, and added that for such an important ministry for Turkish industry to cooperate with our republic will create wide opportunities for the joint (?exploitation) of the energy and natural resources of both states.

Veysel Atasoy conveyed greetings from Turkish President Suleyman Demirel and Prime Minister Tansu Ciller to the Azerbaijani president. He noted that all the conditions exist to broaden the cooperation between our countries, and if we take advantage of this situation we will achieve positive results not only in power generation but also in gas and oil production.

Those present were briefed on the talks held by the guests during their stay in our republic and the agreements concluded following these talks.

Pointing out the importance of linking Azerbaijan and Turkey to a single power system, President Geydar Aliyev noted the exceptional role that such a move might play in the solution of many problems. Touching upon the power supply difficulties in our republic, the Azerbaijani president also mentioned the tense situation in the Nakhichevan Republic. In giving the reasons for it, the president said:

[Aliyev] We are at war with Armenia. All the communication links have been cut. We want to end the war and establish peace. However, there are conditions for this. Our condition is that the Armenian Armed Forces should withdraw from the occupied lands of Azerbaijan. After that, we will not object to the restoration of the communications links, including the power lines, between Armenia and Azerbaijan; we even guarantee this. But, it is hard to say when this is going to happen. Even if such a withdrawal takes place, such problems will not be reliably solved until complete peace is established between Azerbaijan and Armenia. Therefore, it is very important for us that Turkey supply Nakhichevan with all its power needs. [end recording]

Industrial Revival Linked to Karabakh Stabilization

LD0908210294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1928 GMT 9 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Leonid Martirosyan]

[Text] Stepanakert August 9 TASS—At present some 30 industrial enterprises are functioning in Nagorno-Karabakh, Head of the Economics Department of the Republican Council of Ministers Razmik Gevondyan told an ITAR-TASS correspondent.

According to Gevondyan, industrial output in the first half of 1994 has increased by 20 per cent as compared with the same period of the last year. Despite the Azeri communications blocade, Nagorno-Karabakh industrial enterprises manage to export a number of their goods to some CIS countries, including the Russian Federation.

The industrial revival is directly linked with the relative stabilization of the political situation in the republic, Gevondyan believes.

Georgia

Abkhazia Denies Georgian Troop Withdrawal

LD1008123194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1121 GMT 10 Aug 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Irina Shchegoleva]

[Text] Sochi August 10 TASS—"The allegations of the Georgian side about actual withdrawal of its troops from the Kodor Gorge were a unilateral statement," ITAR-TASS was told on Wednesday by Vladimir Mikanba, deputy chairman of the Abkhazian Council of Ministers.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

He asserted that there is no proof that the Georgian units have withdrawn since such military operations must be overseen by peacekeeping forces of the United Nations and the CIS and by the Abkhazian armed forces.

Mikanba said, the pullout of the Georgian troops from the Kodor Gorge was not witnessed by anyone but only claimed by the Georgians.

ITAR-TASS was told by an insider in the Abkhazian Government that about 320 Georgian troops, with 200 border guards among them, are still deployed in the gorge and control the Klukhorskiy and Marukhskiy passes. A 500-strong local militia, which was previosly incorporated by the Georgian Army, adds to this force in the gorge.

"We cannot accept it as a fact that the Georgian servicemen and weapons have been removed from the Kodor Gorge until the United Nations and the CIS peacekeeping forces examine the gorge and confirm it," stressed Mikanba.

'Important' Document Signed on Turkish Cooperation

AU1008055594 Tbilisi SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA in Russian 30 Jul 94 p 2

[GIA (Georgian Information Agency) report under rubric "According to Reports From Correspondents and Information Agencies": "An Important Document Has Been Signed"]

[Text] On 27 July, an important document on the development of economic and social cooperation between the Republic of Georgia and the Republic of Turkey was signed in the Georgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This program will be coordinated on the Georgian side by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and, on the Turkish side, by the Agency for International Cooperation attached to this country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On the basis of this document, the Turkish Government will help our government in the implementation of concrete projects and the elaboration of their feasibility studies, the training of Georgian specialists, and cooperation on the part of state and private enterprises.

One should point out Turkey's desire to contribute to the development of processes of stabilization and peaceful evolution in the region and to help neighboring developing countries in transferring to a market economy. In this respect, the agency can play a significant role in directing and coordinating Turkey's foreign economic policy.

The document was signed on behalf of the Republic of Georgia by Mikhail Ukleba, deputy minister of foreign affairs, and on behalf of the Republic of Turkey by the ambassador [Tevfik Ufuk Okyayuz] and Agency President Umut Arik [name as published].

Parliament Agrees to Emergency Session

LD1008114994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1032 GMT 10 Aug 94

[Text] Georgian parliament's majority met in session behind closed doors and accepted the opposition's demand for an emergency session of parliament on Friday, August 12, reliable sources in Tbilisi said.

Members of the majority supporting the Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze said, however, that the agenda would be approved by the parliament's collegium, which may refuse to include in it the question of reorganizing the system of power, one of the opposition's demands.

The other opposition demand, they have collected the required number of signatures to convene the emergency session, are the resignation of Eduard Shevardnadze as the head of state and the speaker of parliament. The opposition blames him for ruining the Georgian economy and defeatist policies in the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict.

Meanwhile, it is not ruled out that the emergency session of parliament could fail to materialize due to lack of quorum.

28 Percent of State Facilities Privatized

AU1008054894 Tbilisi GULANI in Georgian 5-19 Aug 94 p 20

[Report by Avtandil Silagadze, minister for the management of state property: "Results of the Implementation of the State Program for the Privatization of State Enterprises"]

[Excerpts] As of 22 July 1994, there were 4,901 facilities to be privatized on a list approved by a decree of the Republic of Georgia Council of Ministers. Of these, 1,361 (28.0 percent) have been privatized for the sum of 321.0266 billion coupons (rubles) and 9,857 vehicles that are economically impractical to use have been privatized for the sum of 1.3196 billion coupons (rubles); the total receipts from privatization amount to approximately 322.3462 billion coupons (rubles). [passage omitted]

Joint-Stock Companies

The necessary legislative and normative base has been created for implementing the process of turning large enterprises into joint-stock companies. According to currently available information, there are 1,000 enterprises that are to be transformed into joint-stock companies. [passage omitted]

So far, only 88 joint-stock companies have been registered. [passage omitted]

Investment Funds

Work is progressing on the formation of specialized (voucher) privatization investment funds. Up to now,

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

the ministry has issued licenses for the management of voucher investment funds to 60 legal and physical entities. Of the voucher investment funds that have been established up to now, 17 have received licenses from the ministry.

Tbilisi

In Tbilisi, 324 facilities have been privatized. [passage omitted]

Adzharia Establishes Business Cooperation With Iran

AU1008074494 Tbilisi SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA in Russian 30 Jul 94 p 2

[Georgian Information Agency report under rubric "According to Reports From Correspondents and Information Agencies": "Adzharia Is Establishing Business Cooperation With Iran"]

[Text] An exhibition and sale of goods of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at which more than 1,500 types of products will be presented, will be held for the first time in Batumi from 25 August until 10 September.

Agreement on holding the exhibition was reached during the visit to Iran by an Adzharian government delegation headed by Ali Bakuridze, chief coordinator of branch ministries and departments of the autonomous republic, deputy chairman of the Adzharian Council of Ministers. Questions pertaining to cooperation between Iran aNd Georgia were discussed during the course of meetings with official circles and representatives of business circles. The Georgian side expressed interest in panel housing projects as these types of houses are suitable for coastal regions with a high humidity.

Iranian specialists will soon visit Adzharia in order to study climatic and geological conditions and elaborate special projects. The Iranian side has shown interest in the potential offered by the port of Batumi through which it is possible to ship cargoes to countries in Europe and Asia. In this connection, the Georgian side has submitted the project of creating an Iranian-German-Georgian transport company.

Another result of the visit to Iran was the signing of a contract by one of the firms for the delivery to Adzharia of fish products to be sold at prices that the population can afford.

Flour, Wheat Supplies Exhausted in Zugdidi Region

NC0908184994 Yerevan SNARK in English 1425 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Zugdidi (Western Georgia), August 9 (SNARK)—In the Zugdidi region of Georgia the stores of flour and wheat were finished, SNARK was told by the Deputy Head of the Administration of the region Tengiz Shanava. According to him, it is already two days that no bread is baked for the population in the whole region.

20-25 tons of flour a day is needed for satisfying the needs of the city of Zugdidi, and 30 tons is needed in the whole region. However, as Shanava informed, there were only 4 tons of flour in the bakery factory on August 8. Bread from this factory was sent to soldiers of peacemaking forces.

According to the Deputy Head of the Administration of the region, the same situation is observed practically in all regions of the Western Georgia.

However, the leaders of the Georgia's Corporation of Grain-Production affirm that the norm of flour and wheat in August and the special norm for the refugees was already received by the Zugdidi region in the end of July.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Estonia

Red Tape Prevents Tanks From Leaving Paldiski Base

LD0908125594 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1000 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] A large Russian landing vessel, the BDK-110, with 11 tanks and several trucks on board, received permission to leave only today. The ship arrived in Paldiski [Russian naval and nuclear base] 5 August and was to leave the same day.

First there was a delay with loading the tanks, then it became apparent that the Estonian border guards would not give the ship permission to leave because of confusion over the ship's crew. The ship took on board two sick seamen who could not be treated in Paldiski, and a senior lieutenant from the ship disappeared, said Paldiski commander Raul Luks. The ship was allowed to leave today because of Defense Ministry's application.

The missing senior lieutenant who's whereabouts are unknown to the local commander's office will miss his ship. Colonel Luks added that there are eight tanks in Paldiski harbor waiting to be loaded. Two tanks which arrived yesterday on their own were not allowed in to the harbor precinct because tanks must arrive on trailers. The two tanks returned to Klooga and nature protection officials are now estimating the damage caused by the tanks.

Premier Cited on Russian Treaty Ratification Problem

MM0908114994 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Aug 94 p 1

[Report by Lembit Annus: "Never in a Month of Sundays.... Revelations of a Prime Minister"]

[Text] Tallinn—An austere style continues to characterize the attitude of Prime Minister Mart Laar toward the treaty on the withdrawal of troops and the agreement on social guarantees for Russian military pensioners signed 26 July in Moscow by the Estonian and Russian presidents. Insofar as the texts of these two interstate documents were signed only in Russian "and not in duplicate—one in Russian, one in Estonian," the head of the Cabinet of Ministers told journalists that he "cannot send them for analysis to the Ministry of Justice until such a time as both presidents, according to routine procedure, sign these texts in Estonian too."

Well, as the English say, facts are stubborn things. The 34-year-old Estonian premier, too, is noted for this. At the very least, and in all seriousness, he persuaded journalists at his latest press conference that, until the Estonian-Russian documents pass along the entire chain, their ratification is impossible. That is, the government can raise the question of their ratification by the State Assembly only after the official Estonian texts have been received, and only once the Republic Ministry of Justice forwards the results of a basic legal analysis.

Mart Laar noted that "the main difference between the Estonian-Russian agreements and those between Latvia and Russia is that Estonia has not lumped them into a single package, as Latvia did." In other words, both the treaty on troop withdrawals and the agreement on social guarantees for military pensioners, according to the Estonian premier's logic, have to be examined separately, insofar as they are not a single entity, as Russia is trying unsuccessfully to prove them to be.

Having ascertained from the Estonian Government head's arguments that the path to ratifying the Estonian-Russian interstate documents is thorny and long, the journalists naturally began to enquire what will happen if parliament does not ratify them at all. Will it not then be the case that Russia will have to return its troops to Estonia again? At which Mr. Laar observed: "That is most unlikely." Especially as the treaty on the withdrawal of Russian troops is not supposed to be linked in any way with the agreement on military pensioners. At the same time, the premier burst out with murderous criticism at those who "interpret their provisions in the same way as the Russian side does."

On the other hand, the premier spoke in detail about the talks with his Latvian colleague on how it might be possible to celebrate jointly the withdrawal of Russian troops from Estonia and Latvia on 31 August. He is convinced that Lithuania will also join in these celebrations. In which case something akin to a public holiday will be organized—which will not, however, be like the famous "Baltic parade [tsepochka]." For perfectly understandable reasons, the Estonian premier made no mention of whether or not there will be a festive send-off of Russian troops from Estonia. The latter does not particularly fit in with the overall groundwork for a holiday marking the end of World War II for Estonia.

Amid all this confusion with the laws and their interpretation, there is yet another side. As has already been suggested in the republic press, the Russian presidential team is either not particularly au fait with Estonian laws, or else it is but is turning a blind eye in the hope of pulling off a Russian "fluke." Hence the result. All this pandemonium over ratification, not to mention the fact that the long-term future of the bulk of the military pensioners, which has been hanging in the air, is still unrfesolved because in Estonia the writ that runs is that of Estonian laws. There is no sign to date that anybody intends to change them. So equal social and economic rights for Russian military pensioners with citizens of Estonian nationality can only be dreamed of.

But who knows? As the saying goes: It will all come out in the wash, sooner or later....

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Lithuania

Free Trade Treaty With Kazakhstan Planned

WS0908104994 Tallinn BNS in English 1805 GMT 8 Aug 94

[Text] Vilnius, Aug 08, BNS—The Lithuanian and Kazakh ministers of industry and trade are meeting in Vilnius Tuesday to sign a package of documents making the bilateral free trade agreement come into effect. The free trade agreement reached a year ago has not been signed into force due to various changes in Kazakhstan's political life.

As earlier reported, a Kazakh state delegation headed by President Nursultan Nazarbaev is coming to Vilnius Monday night on the invitation of Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas. The Kazakh talks team includes the ministers of foreign affairs, industry and trade, and transportation, as well as the chairman of the Kazakh National Security Committee. Algimantas Akstinas, secretary of the Lithuanian Ministry of Industry and Trade, told BNS Monday that the ministers of industry and trade of both states intend to sign three important documents—an exemption protocol for certain goods, a treaty on economic and trade cooperation for the year 1994, and an agreement on the origin of goods.

The tax exemption protocol provides for a list of goods not subject to free trade between the two states, i.e. goods protected by either of the sides from the other's export. Lithuania's exception protocol includes agricultural produce while Kazakhstan will protect its mineral products and raw materials, according to Akstinas.

The free trade agreement cannot come into force until the exception protocol and regulations for the origin of goods have not been approved [as received]. The 1994 economic cooperation treaty will in principle replace the similar 1993 agreement which will remain in effect until the former is signed into force.

In 1993 Lithuania's exports to Kazakhstan exceeded imports from that country, although in the preceeding year Lithuania's trade balance with the Kazakh Republic was negative. Last year Lithuania exported to Kazakhstan textiles (31 percent), machinery and equipment (22 percent), food stuffs (9 percent). Its imports from Kazakhstan were as follows: ferrous metals (46 percent), textiles (17 percent), minerals (15 percent). In 1993 Lithuania exported and imported Lt. [litas] 167 million and Lt.77.5 million worth of goods. The respective figures for the first three months of this year stand at Lt.39 million and Lt.18 million. In the first quarter of this year Lithuania exported more food stuffs (24 percent) and imported more mineral materials (60 percent).

By now Kazakhstan has established in Lithuania 26 joint ventures and 4 foreign capital companies, with the total sum of investments reaching 670,000 litas. By the number of such companies in Lithuania Kazakhstan is 24th on the list and its capital makes up 0.1 percent of all investment into the Lithuanian economy.

Brazauskas, Nazarbayev Welcome Signing of Accords

LD0908164894

[Editorial Report] Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian at 0915 GMT on 9 August broadcasts a 25-minute live relay of a news conference held by Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas and President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev. The conference is held at the president's office in Vilnius. Opening the news conference President Brazauskas says that the documents signed today will take a further step toward the development of relations between Lithuania and Kazakhstan, which had been defined by the treaty signed in November of last year in Almaty.

Brazauskas says: "We have now signed a treaty on legal aid and legal relations in civil and criminal cases of the civil code. We also signed a renewed agreement on economic and trade cooperation. Tomorrow, a very important protocol will be signed in Klaipeda by two ministries on the use of the ports of Lithuania by the Republic of Kazakhstan for export of goods manufactured in Kazakhstan and importing goods to the Republic of Kazakhstan."

President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev, speaking in Russian, says that in November of last year all the main documents that had laid the foundations for economic and political relations between the Republic of Kazakhstan and Lithuania were signed.

Speaking about current relations with Lithuania Nazarbayev says: "I must say that Lithuania is Kazakhstan's biggest trade partner on the Baltic Sea. Although the trade volume is not big, last year we exported produce worth about $30 million to Lithuania and about $25 million worth of goods was imported from Lithuania, yet in comparison with other countries, this is the biggest sum. It has been established during the negotiations with your ministers yesterday and today that these indices are not satisfactory. We have signed seven documents today, which are of great importance in every respect and I think that these documents will serve our interrelations.

"The Republic of Kazakhstan has chosen the path of building an independent, sovereign, and democratic state with a market economy. In this respect Lithuania has better experience and being frank about it, Lithuania is ahead of us. Therefore, studying the experience in going over to the market economy, stabilization of the national currency, reduction of inflation, control of the economy—all these are of great importance to us."

Speaking about the issues of foreign policy and specifically concerning relations with the former Soviet republics, Nazarbayev says: "I think that such policy on political cooperation, which is aimed at maintaining friendly relations with all the neighbors far and near,

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

establishing trust among all the states, and working for the good of the people should be welcomed. I would like to express my gratitude for the support of my idea of the Euro-Asian Union, which would not only embrace the CIS countries, and which is not a modernization of the CIS. I imagine this idea as a Commonwealth that could stretch from Eastern Europe to the Pacific Ocean. We know that you have great experience in working with the European Community, you have made agreements in this sphere. This is also of importance to us because all the issues that you have already solved to some extent, we are currently in the process of solving.

Answering the question from the daily RESPUBLIKA about Nazarbayev's idea of an Euro-Asian Union, President Nazarbayev says that "this has nothing to do with the restoration of the former Soviet Union. I think that this would be impossible because all the nations now are on the way to the restoration of their sovereignty and independence."

Kazakh President Hopes To Foster Closer Ties

LD0908145794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1036 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Kazakhstan hopes to gain from Lithuania's experience in creating a market economy in a democratic state, promoting relations with the West, and strengthening security, Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev said in Vilnius at the start of a three-day working visit to the Baltic republic.

Nazarbayev said at talks Tuesday with his Lithuanian counterpart Algirdas Brazauskas that Kazakhstan wants closer ties with Lithuania, which it hopes to achieve under an agreement reached during Brazauskas's visit to Almaty last autumn.

Nazarbayev also said Kazakhstan would like to be able to export its goods through the Lithuanian port of Klaipeda.

The two presidents will sign a bilateral statement, an agreement on cooperation in law, and documents regulating commercial ties between the two countries.

Nazarbayev also plans to visit the famous Palanga resort on the Baltic Sea and tour the port of Klaipeda.

Brazauskas Hails Euro-Asian Union

WS1008102294 Tallinn BNS in English 1901 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Vilnius, Aug 9, BNS—Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas has described as "very significant and pertinent" the Tuesday visit of his Kazakh counterpart Nursultan Nazarbayev and the official delegation accompanying him to Lithuania.

The two presidents gave a news conference Tuesday devoted to the agreements signed between Lithuania and Kazakhstan at the meetings of the two heads of state and the talks teams. On Tuesday the Lithuanian and Kazakh presidents signed a bilateral declaration, the foreign ministers passed an agreement on legal cooperation, and the ministers of industry and trade signed a number of economic agreements and protocols to them. All the documents signed are in principle supplements to the free trade treaty signed by the presidents during Brazauskas' visit to Almaty in November, 1993.

Brazauskas expressed his confidence that the Lithuanian and Kazakh ministers of transportation will sign an agreement on the usage of the Klaipeda harbor for Kazakhstan's import and export as they meet in the Lithuanian seaport Wednesday. Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev left Vilnius for Klaipeda Tuesday night.

The Kazakh president told newspeople that at present Lithuania is Kazakhstan's greatest Baltic partner. He added, however, that the volume of trade between the two countries does not satisfy either of them. According to Nazarbayev, the state talks teams also expressed the same opinion.

Nazarbayev thanked his Lithuanian counterpart for Lithuania's disinterested aid in sharing its experience in creating free market conditions, stabilizing the national currency, curbing inflation and regulating economic processes. "In this respect Lithuania is ahead of us," said the Kazakh president. He also thanked Lithuanian leadership for supporting the idea of a Euro-Asian Union. According to Nazarbayev, the proposed union does not presume a modification of the Commonwealth of Independent States but could be a community of states "extending from Eastern Europe to the Pacific Ocean" built by the pattern of the European Union.

The creation of such a union has become necessary for several reasons, according to the Kazakh president. First, the former Soviet republics "have very much disunited people while building their own independence and sovereignty," said Nazarbayev. Meanwhile, a Euro-Asian Union would provide people with a possibility to move freely where they want for permanent residence. Secondly, "a free market economy recognizes no barriers for the movement of capital and work force." The Kazakh president said that he proposes to create the union "by the pattern of the European Union," with a parliament as the executive body looking at the implementation of agreements signed by the presidents and governments, with a united customs and economic space and a united economy.

According to Nazarbayev, such a union, "provided its all members recognized the equality of rights, sovereignty and territorial integrity of each state," could be effective and "prevent confrontation, to say nothing of bloodshed or clashes; (its members) could engage in free trade." The Kazakh president pointed out that such a union would have nothing in common with the restoration of the former Soviet Union.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

In his turn the Lithuanian president noted that his Kazakh counterpart is first of all referring to a union with Kazakhstan's neighboring countries in Central Asia - Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Tajikistan. The formation of such a union of Central Asian countries "resembling the union of the Baltic States" is an acceptable idea which must be approved, said the Lithuanian president.

However, Brazauskas noted that the Euro-Asian union should not be viewed as a union extending from the Pacific to the Atlantic oceans but should be something different "in the light of what has already been created today." Answering questions by newspeople, Brazauskas ruled out any possibility of Lithuania's participation in such a union because "Lithuania is situated at another place from the geographic point of view."

Slezevicius Receives Polish Defense Minister

LD0908164794 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 0900 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Piotr Kolodziejczyk, Polish minister of national defense, who is currently visiting the Republic of Lithuania and the delegation accompanying him was received today by Adolfas Slezevicius, Lithuanian prime minister.

Although the Polish-Lithuanian political treaty has not yet been ratified the parliaments of both countries agreed that concrete issues of inter-state relations could be resolved.

During the half an hour talks with the visitor, Prime Minister Adolfas Slezevicius drew attention to fact that in many spheres such as economic reform, integration into economic and defense structures of Europe, curbing inflation, Lithuania is following in the footsteps of Poland, therefore, the experience of Lithuania's neighbors was of great value.

Both the states admit that under current conditions, the security of each individual state can be ensured only by collective efforts, through partnership with neighbors. The Polish minister of national defense said on account of this, it is necessary to establish cooperation between Lithuania and Poland not only for the sake of peace, but also for development and prosperity.

The head of the Lithuanian Government extended his gratitude for material help by Lithuania's neighbor to the Lithuanian Army. Minister Kolodziejczyk on his part stressed that in spite of the complex economic situation in Poland itself, there is a wish to continue such assistance. There are plans to supply more equipment and there are proposals to give a more intensive training to Lithuanian servicemen who will be taking part in the international peace keeping units. Lithuanian officers are invited to study at the Polish Military Academy.

During the talks, Adolfas Slezevicius asked the minister to take the invitation to visit Lithuania to Waldemar Pawlak, head of Polish Government.

Linas Linkevicius, minister of national defense, and other officials took part in the meeting.

Polish Minister Discusses Cooperation

LD0908210394 Vilnius Radio Vilnius in English 1900 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Poland denies Russia's attempt to start military transit through the country, said Polish Defense Minister Piotr Kolodziejczyk when visiting Vilnius. According to him, there were no negotiations on this issue. Leader of the Russian team, Viktor Isakov, has stated that having failed to agree with Lithuania on the military transit over its territory, Russia will turn to Poland.

The Polish defense minister noted that in this way Russia tries to create a favorable atmosphere for the talks on military transit with Lithuania. Piotr Kolodziejczyk, Polish defense minister, arrived in Lithuania on a three day visit to discuss further cooperation.

Speaking at a press conference on Tuesday [9 August], Piotr Kolodziejczyk, Polish defense minister, appreciated the prospects of future cooperation with Lithuania. His optimism is based on the fact that both countries seek to integrate into European security structures.

According to Linas Linkevicius, Lithuanian defense minister, Lithuania's and Poland's participation in the Partnership for Peace program will provide for closer ties with NATO at a different pace, however. Lithuanian defense minister is of the opinion that cooperation between Poland and NATO is closer than that of the Baltic states.

Polish defense minister in his turn added that Poland and the Baltic states should go shoulder to shoulder exploiting all possibilities of regional cooperation. Poland hopes to become a full member of NATO by the end of this year.

Opposes Russian Military Transit

WS1008092294 Tallinn BNS in English 1553 GMT 9 Aug 94

[Text] Vilnius, Aug 09, BNS—Polish Defence Minister Piotr Kolodziejczyk, at a news conference in Vilnius Tuesday, called "illogical and impossible" the idea of Russian military transit over Polish territory.

"There have been no talks with Russia on the issue and I see no basis for them (negotiations)," Kolodziejczyk told newspeople.

The Polish defence minister responded to the recent statement by Victor Isakov, head of the Russian talks team with Lithuania, that in case Lithuania refuses to allow in Russian military transit over its territory Russia will start negotiations with Poland.

"Poland will not become Lithuania's rival in this field," said Kolodziejczyk, adding that similar statements by

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Russian negotiators could only serve as a means to gain seeming advantage in transit talks with Lithuania.

Russia's military force concentrated in its Kaliningrad enclave "is often used for shanghaiing," while military transit to that area deserves proper attention on the part of the international community, said Kolodziejczyk.

The Polish defence minister who is on a three-day official visit to Lithuania starting Monday has talked with his Lithuanian counterpart Linas Linkevicius and met Lithuanian Prime Minister Adolfas Slezevicius. He also held talks with Deputy Foreign Minister Albinas Januska who heads the Lithuanian working group drawing up documents for participation in NATO's Partnership for Peace.

Speaking at the same news briefing, Linkevicius said that the meetings with the Polish defence minister were "business-like and proceeded in the spirit of mutual understanding." Lithuania and Poland have not used to the full potential the possibilities for cooperation opened up by the agreement signed between the Defence Ministries of the two states in June, 1993, Linkevicius said. According to him, Lithuania should assimilate Poland's two-decade experience in peacekeeping missions as well as the practice of military police force.

Speaking at the news briefing, the Polish defence minister was optimistic about the prospects of Poland's relations with Lithuania. Kolodziejczyk said he based his optimism on the aspiration of both countries to integrate with European security structures, sticking at the same time to very similar strategies guaranteeing their own sovereignty.

Linkevicius, the Lithuanian defence minister, said that both Lithuania and Poland have joined the NATO Partnership for Peace programme, which provides for closer ties with the Alliance, "at different tempos, though." However, Linkevicius refrained from giving an answer when questioned whether namely that difference in progress could mean that Poland and the other Visegrad partners will be admitted to NATO sooner than Lithuania and its fellow Baltic States. But, according to Linkevicius, although Poles have a lot of problems of their own, they have "moved further than the Balts in this process."

Developing the same theme, the Polish defence minister said that a race for a quicker admission to NATO would be meaningless. "The finish line should be approached together," said the Polish defence minister. He spoke out for a stepping up regional cooperation.

Poland hopes to become a full NATO member by the end of this century.

The Polish defence minister said that Russia is still "allergic" to its former satellites' moves toward the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. There are many political games in that country in which "echoes of neo-imperialistic policies" can be heard, Kolodziejczyk said.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 352
MERRIFIELD, VA.

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government. Users of this publication may cite FBIS or JPRS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying them as the secondary source.

Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) and Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS) publications contain political, military, economic, environmental, and sociological news, commentary, and other information, as well as scientific and technical data and reports. All information has been obtained from foreign radio and television broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, books, and periodicals. Items generally are processed from the first or best available sources. It should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed. Except for excluding certain diacritics, FBIS renders personal names and place-names in accordance with the romanization systems approved for U.S. Government publications by the U.S. Board of Geographic Names.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [ ] are supplied by FBIS/JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how the information was processed from the original. Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear from the original source but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source. Passages in boldface or italics are as published.

SUBSCRIPTION/PROCUREMENT INFORMATION

The FBIS DAILY REPORT contains current news and information and is published Monday through Friday in eight volumes: China, East Europe, Central Eurasia, East Asia, Near East & South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and West Europe. Supplements to the DAILY REPORTs may also be available periodically and will be distributed to regular DAILY REPORT subscribers. JPRS publications, which include approximately 50 regional, worldwide, and topical reports, generally contain less time-sensitive information and are published periodically.

Current DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are listed in *Government Reports Announcements* issued semimonthly by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161 and the *Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications* issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

The public may subscribe to either hardcover or microfiche versions of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications through NTIS at the above address or by calling (703) 487-4630. Subscription rates will be provided by NTIS upon request. Subscriptions are available outside the United States from NTIS or appointed foreign dealers. New subscribers should expect a 30-day delay in receipt of the first issue.

U.S. Government offices may obtain subscriptions to the DAILY REPORTs or JPRS publications (hardcover or microfiche) at no charge through their sponsoring organizations. For additional information or assistance, call FBIS, (202) 338-6735,or write to P.O. Box 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013. Department of Defense consumers are required to submit requests through appropriate command validation channels to DIA, RTS-2C, Washington, D.C. 20301. (Telephone: (202) 373-3771, Autovon: 243-3771.)

Back issues or single copies of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are not available. Both the DAILY REPORTs and the JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at many Federal Depository Libraries. Reference copies may also be seen at many public and university libraries throughout the United States.